THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.

VOLUME XXXVIII.
NUMBER 49.

CALCUTTA:—MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1891.

Per Annum in Advance
TOWN 11-8
MOFUSSIL 13-4

Summary of News.

Monday, 23rd November.

SEVERAL important promotions in the Peerage are, writes "Atlas," in the *World*, on the tapis. The Queen is again pressing on Lord Salisbury the dukedom he modestly declined during the Jubilee year, and urges as a reason for his acceptance the recent extinction of the Dukedoms of Buckingham and Cleveland. On Lord Lansdowne's return from India he will probably become Duke of Kerry.

MR. Subramania Iyer, C. I. E., who has been nominated to officiate on the Madras High Court Bench for Mr. Justice Muthusawmy Iyer, on sick leave, has been a member of the Madras Legislative Council, where he acquitted himself with great credit, and has filled the post of Government Pleader with equal success. The *Hindu*, referring to the appointment, says:—"The Madras Government could not have shown a keener or more correct sense of its responsibility than it has shown by the appointment of Mr. Subramania Iyer. There is not another Hindu gentleman in the Presidency in whom the community has greater confidence, or who has more endeared himself to them not merely by his attainments and highly engaging manners, but by the valuable service he has rendered to the public. His elevation to the bench is a loss to the Indian National Congress."

THE Paris correspondent of the *Times* says that the Czar has passed through Germany without seeing the German Emperor. He has imposed on himself and suite thirty hours of sea crossing instead of ten in this severe weather in order not to meet the Emperor William. At Berlin it was believed that the two Sovereigns might meet somewhere. The Emperor William had agreed to go shooting in the locality, where, by taking a three hours' railway journey, he could meet the Czar, while passing through German territory. He was ready to go and greet him, but the Czar had made up his mind, and despite all efforts would not change it. Some little time ago the Grand Duke Vladimir, who is known to be a strong supporter of Germany, stated that he had urged his Imperial brother to meet the German Emperor, who had twice come to see him. The Czar had replied, "True he has been to see me twice, but he invited himself. I did not invite him. I am not bound to return visits which I did not solicit, and to which I simply consented." This shows that the chances of meeting were very slight. More careful precautions were taken this year for the safety of the Czar in German territory than two years ago. The authorities had heard of an intended plot, and were determined not to be caught napping. Besides an enormous force of police, a large detachment of troops was told of under the command of officers, and ball cartridges were distributed to the men with orders to use them in the event of any attempt at surprise.

THE choice of Government for a President of the Land Indebtedness Commission has fallen upon Mr. John Neill, Judicial Commissioner of the Central Provinces—a choice that will have the approval of all who are acquainted with the work and reputation of that officer. Mr. Rivaz and Mr. Evans, as already announced, represent the Punjab and North-west Provinces respectively; and Mr. Leslie Porter is Secretary. It remains for the Bombay Government to complete the Commission by making its nomination to the two vacant seats.

IN a Resolution of the Home Department, published in the last *Gazette*, reviewing the working of the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act, the "instructions" of the Commission are formally published. Besides deciding whether the Act should be retained, with or without modification, where it is at present in force, the Commission is required to examine how far the principles which may have approved themselves by experience in the Deccan are capable of extension to other provinces where a similar problem presents itself, and how far they are likely to afford an adequate remedy for the evils which are there complained of. Should the Commissioners be of opinion that the measures embodied in the Deccan Ryots Act can only be of temporary efficacy, and afford no lasting solution of the difficulties they are intended to meet, they are to state what other measures, if any, they would recommend for the purpose.

Tuesday, 24th November.

THE *Pioneer* writes:—It will be noticed from an official announcement in the current mail papers that Her Majesty the Queen has been pleased to confer the Royal Red Cross upon several ladies whose names are more or less household words in India. To Lady Roberts the Order is a recognition that comes none too early of the labours that have launched and sustained the scheme for nursing in the Army, whose benefits are now fully and gratefully appreciated from Quetta to Bangalore. The next recipients are Mrs. Cawley and Mrs. Damant, the heroines of the Kohima stockade, and Miss Katherine Loch, who came out as one of the two Lady Superintendents when the Indian Nursing Service was started about four years ago. The decoration bestowed on Mrs. Cawley and Mrs. Damant will be particularly acceptable to public sentiment, because it had come to be feared that their bravery and devotion had passed unrewarded for too many years to be revived for public recognition, and it is only the attention excited by Mrs. Grimwood's share in the Manipur episode that has obtained for them at last this late reward. Besides Miss Loch two other ladies of the Nursing Service, Miss Wolchman and Miss Lickfold, have received the Red Cross."

TRAVELLERS and scientists are greatly interested in the recent discovery of wonderful caves in the island of Corsica. A miner who undertook to explore them a few weeks ago found it impossible to do so. He discovered various small caves, close together, which led to a mammoth cave some distance from the original openings. The roof of the mammoth cave was between sixty and seventy feet high. After travelling underground for some time, he came upon an immense lake, which made further progress impossible. According to his estimates, the lake is situated under the mountain chain La Revellata, near Calva, and gets its water from the ocean. In support of this theory a small grotto was discovered on Cape Revellata, on a level with the sea, which is believed to be connected with the caves. Some people estimate the length of the caves along the coast at thirty miles.—*Chicago Inter Ocean.*

SMALL-POX of a virulent type is raging in the Valley of Manipur. There has been one case only among the troops, which, however, terminated fatally. The general immunity is ascribed to the fact that nearly all the Sepoys have been vaccinated. No fear is entertained of anything like an epidemic form of the disease breaking out among them. Fever is still very prevalent, and as a prophylactic tea and goor is being issued to the garrison on payment in lieu of rum.

As an illustration of the maxim—the glorious uncertainty of the law—the following is worth reproducing: There was a sum of £40,000 known as the Paris fund for the benefit of the Nationalist party of Ireland. It was vested in the joint names of Parnell and J. M'Carthy but without mention of any trust, and it was confidently believed that the death of Mr. Parnell would leave the control of the money in the hands of the surviving trustee. And this would have been the procedure followed under the English law, but the French law is quite different. As the money and securities lie at at one joint call of the two persons in whose names they are lodged, a moiety of it will be given to the heirs of Parnell, namely his widow and his eldest brother. There is great consternation in the Anti-Parnellite ranks, as it is expected that Mrs. Parnell will at once place her share in the hands of those who stood by her late husband.

THE following harrowing account of Amir Abdur Rahaman's idea of justice is given by a correspondent: "In the course of prosecution a person was proved to be a poetaster and a great plagiarist too. 'I may not punish him for the thefts of public money, which are not proved, but I cannot pardon him for literary thefts from the works of saintly poets like Sadi and Hafiz,' said the Ameer, and so he ordered that the tongue of the accused should all through be perforated by long needles. No sooner was the sentence pronounced than the tongue of the unfortunate wretch was formed into a sieve."

THE Archbishop of Aix has been fined three thousand francs for resisting the constitutional authority of Government with regard to future French pilgrimages to Rome.

Wednesday, 25th November.

THE following obituary notice of Mr. George Sibley appears in the *Indian Engineering*:—"He came to India in 1851 for the East India Railway and gradually worked his way up, till, in 1859, he became the Chief Engineer of the North-Western Provinces Division, and in 1868, Chief Engineer of the whole line of 1,500 miles. He retired from the service and from the profession in January 1876. Among the more important works constructed under his supervision may be mentioned the Jumna Bridge, Allahabad, which was completed in 1866. It is understood that Mr. Sibley has left a considerable legacy to the University of Calcutta for the purpose of founding Engineering scholarships, and for other ways for the encouragement of Native Engineering students."

THE body of every spider contains four little masses, pierced with a multitude of holes imperceptible to the naked eye, each hole permitting the passage of a single thread. All the threads, to the number of 1,000 in each mass, join together when they come out, and the single thread with which the spider spins its web; so what we call a spider's thread consists of more than 4,000 threads united.

AN amateur horticulturist has discovered the means of causing roses to grow of any desired colour; in fact, he has in his garden roses both green, blue, and violet. Not being a speculator, but an amateur, he has spread abroad his *modus operandi* as widely as possible. It is this: Perfectly white roses only must be operated upon. To make them become blue, it suffices to water the trees throughout the winter with a solution of Prussian blue; and if they are required to be green, sulphate of copper must be used.

ATTENTION has recently been called to the fact that the volcanoes of the Andes eject large quantities of fish from their craters in the first stage of an eruption! The Indians hold that many of these fishes are still alive when they are found on the sides of the mountain, and it is certain that few are either boiled or mutilated. The explanation is that during the long periods of quiscence, extending even to a century, the crater becomes choked up and turned into the bed of a lake, with subterranean channels to other crater lakes, from which the spawn probably comes. The fishes are generally blind, showing that they are of an underground variety.

A MEETING of journalists will shortly be held at Hyderabad, under the presidency of Mr. Nelson, Barrister-at-Law, to protest against the aspersions, cast by the Home Secretary of H. H. the Nizam's Government in his memorandum, explaining the object of his Press circular.

A MOST diabolical murder case is reported in the columns of the *Hitabadi* and *Hindu Ranjika*. On the 21st Kartick last, a band of dacoits looted the house of one Dwarka Nath Mozumdar, an inhabitant of Hogulbaria village in the Sub-Division of Meherpore. The dacoits murdered a maid-servant as well as the mother-in-law of Babu Dwarka Nath Mozumdar. His wife was also deeply wounded. The dacoits, it is said, cast two infants into a well, and then decamped, after taking all the valuables and jewellery.

To the November number of the *United Service Magazine* Lord Wolseley contributes the first part of a review of Marshal von Moltke's History of the War of 1870. He concludes the first instalment of his article with the following striking passage:—"Von Moltke was no believer in a reign of universal peace in this world of ours as it is still constituted. At one time there were many good people who devoted time and money to the duty of warning England that the end of the world was close at hand. That mania has been replaced by a craze to make all civilised nations believe that war will very soon cease for ever to trouble the world. This craze is by no means new. Occasionally forgotten for long periods it reappears and reasserts itself as an old friend in some new guise. Now and then the earth is convulsed by the dire struggle between contending kingdoms; but though it may cause of a few to fall off from this innocent and childlike faith, the religion—for such it is—does not die out. No amount of wars can eradicate it, though all nature is ever at war, and the greater part of animal life is fed by slaughter."

Thursday, 26th November.

THE death is reported of Mr. Nusserwanjee Manockjee Petit, brother of Sir Dinshaw Manockjee Petit, the millionaire Parsee mill-owner of Bombay. The deceased was also a cousin of Mr. Manockjee Rustomjee, of Calcutta.

A NEW departure in journalistic interviewing has been made by a French contemporary, which publishes an account of a spiritualistic seance, at which those present were favoured with some interesting answers by no less a shade than that of Balzac. Communication in the first place was opened by means of a drawing-room table through which the usual code was arranged. Later, messages were received through a 'medium,"—a young Dane, who, it is said, knew French only very imperfectly, but who, nevertheless, wrote answers to mental questions in the most elegant idiom. After a time it was proposed to summon Balzac and question him as to his masterpiece "Pere Goriot," After a quarter of an hour, the presence of the long-deceased novelist was announced with some brusqueness by the table, and the interrogatory commenced. Balzac expressed himself as being very satisfied with the adaptation of "Pere Goriot" being played at the Theatre Libre, and had even controlled its production, conveying his wishes to the minds of its authors by means of dreams, which he said, like death, were the domain of spirits. To the question as to where he was at the time of the summons, he replied—"At the Theatre Libre," and mentioned a place in the house which was known to be occupied by M. Francisque Sarcey. The laughter which this statement provoked did not at all disconcert the "spirit," who said that in that case he must have been sitting on the knees of the famous critic. Interesting and charming by reason of their extreme modesty are Balzac's remarks upon the work of M. Zola.—"That man," he said, "is building a cathedral. He is an archbishop, while I was perhaps a village cure." "Did he read M. Zola's books?" was asked. "Yes, and with great attention." He seems even to have been hurt by the question: "for," says the writer, "the pencil here stopped, and would write no more."

THE situation in East Africa is, the Berlin correspondent of the *Times* says, causing more and more anxiety in Germany. Emin Pasha's insubordination and the repudiation of his enterprise by the German Government, following upon the disaster to the Zelewski expedition, are the chief subjects now uppermost in the press. A regular campaign is also being carried on against the Governor of German East Africa, Baron Von Soden, in favour of Von Wissmann, who, as a private letter from one of his friends now confirms, has in fact sent in his resignation The news of Emin Pasha's latest movements have been officially acknowledged to be desertion of his post, as he has advanced accompanied by about thirty men of the native colonial troops into the territory which was delimited by the treaty of July 1890 and assigned to the sphere of British interests. The correspondent adds that the excitement shown by a certain section of the English press by the news that Emin Pasha has exceeded his instructions and entered British spheres of interest, has given rise to not a little astonishment in Germany after the official and categorical repudiation by the German Government of the Imperial Commissary and all consequences which might accrue from this flagrant breach of orders. The German press is absolutely at a loss to account for the feeling which the act seems to have raised in the English journals in question.

THE *Nasien Agra* makes an extraordinary statement in reference to the disposal of the application for revision of the conch case at Agra, which ought to be taken serious notice of. The paper says that the District Judge summarily dismissed the application without hearing what the appellant had to say in support of it. As might be expected, the proceedings of the Judge have created great consternation in the city, and several meetings have been held amongst the Hindus to discuss the matter.

THE insurgents in the province of Rio Grande demand the resignation of President Fonseca. Otherwise they threaten to march on the capital.

THE Russian wheat markets are firm. A ukase has been issued forbidding the export of wheat from Russia. A journalist who is visiting the Kazan District reports that the distress by the famine is incredible. Acorns are prized as food, and typhus is raging among the peasants. Nevertheless it is officially announced that the grain remaining in Russia is sufficient to feed the whole of the population.

As Mr. Orr is not inclined to accept further office as Sheriff of Madras, it is understood that the appointment will be given to a native gentleman. The names of Dewan Bahadur Raghunath Row and Professor Runganadhu Mudelliar are mentioned as likely persons. The *Madras Mail* strongly supports the former.

Friday, 27th November.

THE Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab has been pleased to direct that the following scale of fees shall be levied for every entry relating to the acquisition of any right in an estate made in an annual record, or relating to the acquisition of any interest in land other than that of a tenant-at-will holding on an annual lease, made in the said record *viz.*—(*a*) when the entry is made in consequence of the acquisition of a right or interest transferred by registered deed or by a decree or order of a Court, a fee of one anna only shall be charged: In other cases—(*b*) when the entry is made in consequence of the acquisition of a right or interest by inheritance, a fee reckoned at the the rate of Rs. 1-4-0 per cent. on the revenue assessed, provided that the minimum charge shall not be less than 4 annas: and (*c*) when the entry is made in consequence of the acquisition of a right or interest otherwise than by inheritance, a fee reckoned at Rs. 2-8-0 per cent. on the revenue assessed, provided that the minimum charge shall not be less than 8 annas. The whole of the fee charged under (*a*) and one-fifth of the fee charged under (*b*) and (*c*) shall be paid to the Patwari making the entry in the said record, the balance in the latter case being credited to Government. When more than the minimum fee under (*b*) or (*c*) is charged, fractions of an anna shall be reckoned as a full anna.

THERE is an idea, says the *Times'* correspondent, of offering a banquet to Mr. Gladstone when he passes through Paris, his Egyptian views having given great satisfaction.

THE London correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette* writes that the Empress Frederick has, through her Equerry, Count Seckendorff, accepted a copy of Mr. Bhownuggree's translation into Gujerati of "Leaves from the Journal of Our Life in the Highlands." The Count in a letter to Mr. Bhownuggree, who is now in London, says that "it would give Her Majesty the Empress the greatest interest to visit your native country. I trust it will be possible some day. Nobody would enjoy it more than Her Majesty."

IN 1866 the total population of the earth was estimated at 1,350 millions. Fourteen years later the official estimate was 1,456 millions. A new estimate was made in 1882, when there was shown a decrease of 22 millions. It appeared that the population of China had been over-estimated, and it had to be reduced, from 405 millions to 350 millions. and so again that the population of Africa has been reduced to the extent of 38 millions, and Asia has similarly been subjected to a deduction of 15 millions. The total population of the inhabited globe is now given as 1,479 millions and-a-quarter.

LADY LANSDOWNE, during her stay at Bhopal visited Her Highness the Begum's Zenana Hospital, where she was received by Dr. Dane and Miss Nicbel, the lady doctor, to whom the women of Bhopal owe much for the care and attention they receive at her hands. In commemoration of their Excellencies' visit to Bhopal, Her Highness the Begum has decided to erect, in extension of the present premises, a handsome hospital for purdah women, and has also founded a school for nurses and midwives, which Lady Lansdowne has kindly allowed to be named 'the Lansdowne Maternity School.' Her Highness the Begum's reception party to Her Excellency Lady Lansdowne and Lady Evelyn Fitzmauriee, who were attended by Mrs. Robertson was georgeous and splendid. The huge gardens behind the Taj Mahal Palace were illuminated in a manner which really baffles description. Her Highness' guests assured her that they had never witnessed anything more striking than the illuminations prepared under her personal supervision, or more lovely than the fireworks, the effect of which was heightened by the intervening water. Her Highness walked about the grounds, conversing in the most friendly manner with Her Excellency for some time, and so many were the fascinations of the fairy-like garden, that it was almost dinner time before a start homewards could be made.

MR. LOGAN, who has been completing his report on the finance of the Cashmere State at Jammu, returns to Lahore shortly. It has been decided that an enrolled officer of the Financial Department shall be appointed Account Officer to the State, and the choice seems to lie between Mr. Kiernander, at present Officiating Accountant-General at Madras; Mr. Hart, officiating in the same capacity at Bombay; and Mr. G. Bleazby, Chief Superintendent of the Accountant-General's office at Lahore. The appointment of the latter would have the advantage of being more econominal to the State than that of the other names suggested; and (remarks the *Pioneer*) if indeed, as is reported, the intention is that the pay of the appointment shall not exceed Rs. 1,000 a month, Officiating Accountant-Generals may presumably be eliminated from the competition.

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Saturday, 28th November.

A DESPATCH from Constantinople states that the long contemplated scheme for a railway between the Bosphorus and the Persian Gulf seems at last to be in the way of realisation. Some months ago the Sultan ordered that no further concessions for railways in Asiatic Turkey should be given until one should have been taken up for a line between Constantinople and Bagdad. A strong syndicate has consequently been formed with a view to applying for the Bagdad Railway concession. The Porte has made inquiries regarding the financial strength of the syndicate. It would take about nine years to complete the line.

THE *Berlin Post*, in a long and apparently inspired article on the Pamir question, says that Russia evidently has at present no far reaching plans against China or India, but the British principle of following every step of Russia's in Central Asia with suspicion is by no means a mistake. England regards Russia's advance in the Pamirs as an encroachment on her interests, and a menace to her position in India. especially as Russia is constantly pressing forward into Afghanistan and China, in the integrity of whose possessions England is deeply interested, as well as in the maintenance of her influence there. In the Pamir question, therefore, it is not the Pamir so much as the principle involved that is at issue.

THE Gladstonians have gained about twenty seats in the provincial municipal elections in England, The Socialist and Labour candidates were almost everywhere defeated.

SIR Charles Dilke, in the *Fortnightly Review* declares that the French manœuvres show that Germany has lost the uncontested military supremacy in Europe, and doubts if the Triple Alliance is superior on land to France and Russia.

IT is proposed to confer the freedom of the City of London on Mr. Balfour and Mr. Goschen, in recognition of their public services.

"ATLAS," writing in the *World*, says:—I am enabled to state, on the very highest authority, that the Queen has been in most excellent health throughout the autumn. Her Majesty has been out driving or walking every day, and although the weather has been unusually wet, cold, and stormy at Deeside, yet the Queen has escaped catching even the slightest cold, nor has she sufferred from rheumatism in the knee, which has sometimes troubled her since the accident which she met with at Windsor Castle about ten years ago. The Queen has not been in better health than she is at present any time during the last twenty years.

AN inter-Parliamentary Peace Congress has assembled at Rome. A hundred foreign delegates were present, including twelve English members of Parliament. It is proposed to appoint a permanent international Parliamentary Committee, with branches in each country, to investigate international differences which may arise.

FURTHER particulars show that the grain riot at Kurnool on the 17th instant was a very serious affair. It began at 8 or 9 A. M., and continued till 2 P. M. The people of Kurnool are exceptionally peace-loving and law-abiding. The disturbance, therefore, clearly establishes the fact that it was the pangs of hunger that drove them to sack grain shops. The district suffered worse than any other during the great Madras famine of 1876-77; but the people did not then rise, nor commit any act of lawlessness. It would thus appear that they are now in a worse plight than they were 13 or 14 years ago when the terrible famine overtook Southern India. The mob of Kurnool, so gentle and timid, however, became infuriated at the sight of grain-shops and depots, which they entered by thousands and carried away large quantities of grain to their own houses. The Police, however, mustered strong. A scuffle ensued, and the Police were worsted. The Reserve Police were then called out, and they also did not fare better. The native Deputy Magistrate next made an effort to pacify the infuriated mob; but his persuasions and threats failed. A terrible scene then occurred. The police fired upon the crowd, and a considerable number of men were severely wounded and killed. In the meantime, famine is spreading in other districts of Madras, and the Kurnool tragedy may be repeated in other towns also at any time. The latest account shows that Bellary has been declared a famine district.

IT is estimated that the amount required for famine relief in Madras is about Rs. 2,15,000, whereyf Rs. 50,000 have been allotted for gratuitous relief. Should the season continue favourable in North Arcot and Chingliput the amount could be reduced to two lakhs, but if the situation, now critical, in Ganjam, Kurnool, Anantapore and Bellary is not improved by early rainfall the estimate will be greatly exceeded.

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THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, BOW-BAZAR STREET.)

(SESSION 1891-92.)

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Monday* the *30th Nov.*, at 4-15 P. M.
Subject: Ethylic Alcohol.

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on *Tuesday*, the *1st December*, at 7 P. M.
Subject: Electro-Magnetism concluded Volta-electric and Magneto- electric Induction.

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Wednesday*, the *2nd Dec.* at 4-15 P. M.
Subject: Fermentation.

PRACTICAL CLASS in Chemistry under Babu Ram Chundra Datta, F. C. S, on *Thursday* the *3rd Dec.*, at 4-15 P. M.

LECTURE by the Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E., on *Thursday*, the *3rd Dec.*, at 7 P. M.
Subject: The Velocity, replexion and refraction of Sound. Phenomena of echo and resonance.

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Friday* the *4th Dec.*, at 4-15 P. M.
Subject: Primary Alcohols concluded.

PRACTICAL CLASS in Chemistry under Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Saturday*, the *5th Dec.*, at 3 P. M.

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S. on *Saturday*, the *5hth Dec.*, at 4 P. M.
Subject: Derivatives of the Monatomic Alcohols. Ethers.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M. D.,
November 28th, 1891. *Honorary Secretary.*

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1891.

POLICE REFORM.

THE public should feel very thankful to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor for the promptness with which he has taken up the question of police reform. We apprehended that the recommendations of the Police Commission involved too large an addition to the present outlay on police administration to receive an early sanction of Government. But we are informed that all that could be done has been done by the Government of Bengal to give effect to a large number of the recommendations of the Commission. A Bill has been drafted for the improvement of the Chowkidari system and Village Punchayets, which should enlist the sympathy and secure the approval of all who are acquainted with our rural economy.

The first essay towards the improvement of the village police was made by Act VI of 1870 B. C., but its practical operation during the last twenty years has brought to the surface several defects, which have to be remedied. Act I of 1886 B. C. attempted a partial amendment of the Act; but several of the changes it introduced have been found to be far from improvements. The draft Bill removes the restriction of the minimum of 60 houses for the introduction of the Act in a village. It vests the determination of the number of chowkidars required for a village in the Panchayet, subject to the control of the Magistrate. The rate of pay of the chowkidar between the limits of Rs. 3 and Rs. 6 per mensem has been retained; but His Honor rightly thinks that the minimum might be reduced to Rs. 2 a month in those parts of the country where the wages of unskilled labour do not exceed that rate. His Honor also justly rejects the proposal of the Police Commission for the appointment of circle officers for the collection of the Chowkidari tax and the supervision of the chowkidars. It involves a large additional expenditure for a questionable improvement and militates against the principle of local Self-Government, which all future legislation should attempt to encourage. The draft Bill provides for the appointment of a member of the Punchayet as the collecting officer and leaves it to the Magistrate to determine whether the work of supervision should be entrusted to the collecting member or to a different person.

One of the salutary features of the draft Bill is that it provides for the appointmen of punchayets by a sort of election. A present the office is regarded in many case with great disfavour, so much so, that persons have to be forced to accept the office under the sanction of a penalty for refusal. We hope the changes proposed would make the institution more popular. Not the least prominent of the changes in the rural police, contemplated by the draft Bill, is the provision for the abolition of all Chakran Chowkidars and the transfer of all chakran lands to zemindars. This measure singly will introduce a great reform in the village police. It will remove the great inconvenience at present felt by reason of one man having to serve two masters, and set at rest the disputes which frequently occur between landholders and police officers regarding the measure of service due to each by their common servants. The provision for an appeal to the Commissioner of the Division in cases of dispute regarding the area of chakran lands will be also hailed as a great improvement on the present law. While we are on the question of service tenures it is well to mention that the question of the disposal of Ghatwali and Phanridari tenures is not so easy of solution as the question of chakran lands. The matter is still under the consideration of Sir Charles Elliott, and we understand that the subject is under enquiry by a special officer and that it will not be taken up for final settlement before all officers who have any knowledge of it have been consulted.

The question of reform of the regular police is one of much greater difficulty, involving, as it does, a large increase of expenditure. The increase of pay of Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors at the rates recommended by the Police Commission would require an additional expenditure which the Government of India is not in a position to sanction. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor has, however, determined to initiate certain changes which would be a substantial earnest for future reform. He proposes to take away from Head Constables the power of investigating crime and vest it in all practicable cases to Sub-Inspectors and Inspectors. He would increase the pay of Head constables and constables and would devote for the purpose an additional sum of Rs. 1,71,417 per annum for which sanction has been received from the Government of India. But the most salutary change in the constitution of the regular police which Sir Charles Elliott purposes to introduce is in the system of recruiting officers for the service. His Honor has appointed a Committee consisting of Mr. Veasy, Mr. Henry and Mr. Knyvett to work out for each district the number of Sub-Inspectors required and to frame rules for their recruitment and promotion in the service. Every attempt will be made to induce youngmen of education and respectability to enter the service. A sort of modified competitive examination will be introduced for the selection of candidates and those only who have passed the F. A. Examination or received a training in some recognised institution will only be admitted to it.

This is so far all that could be desired; but we regret to have to differ from His Honor in one particular regarding the class of persons who should be allowed to compete at these examinations. We freely admit that there is a small number of head constables who come from respectable families; but the majority of them have risen from the ranks and it is most undesirable, looking to their social position, their training, their associations and past life, that they should be allowed to rise to the rank of officers even through the door of a competitive examination. We feel bound, therefore, to protest emphatically against the proposal to allow Head constables to compete for Sub-Inspectorships. With so many hundreds of University graduates in Arts and Law hankering for appointments, it would be most unwise to perpetuate the system of allowing much inferior material to enter into the constitution of the service.

In connection with the question of police reform Sir Charles Elliott has very properly considered the question of detection and punishment of crime. It has been assumed, we think on no satisfactory evidence, that a large percentage of crime go undetected and unpunished. In the face of the conclusion to which His Honor has arrived to the effect that crime is decreasing relatively to the increase of population, such an assumption is unwarrantable. We think that the result of criminal trials and appeals to which His Honor refers, is not owing to mismanagement of cases or non-production of evidence, but to the fact that a large number of false cases are sent up by the police and also instituted by private parties with the collusion of the police. The number of such cases would fall off and the result of criminal trials would be more satisfactory with the reform of the subordinate classes of the police. We by no means under-rate the value of the strictures passed by His Honor upon magisterial officers for dilatoriness and frequent remands. On the contrary, we are of opinion that they should be put down with a strong hand. But we feel very sensitive on the question of blending the judge and prosecutor in the same person and interfering with the judicial independence of magisterial officers. We think that a Magistrate or a Deputy Magistrate should never concern himself with the defects or thoroughness of the evidence adduced in a trial. What is the business of the police? An officer would be unfit to sit in judgment in a case in which he has advised the police or the prosecutor as to the nature of the evidence necessary to prove the guilt of the accused. If the Magistrate were to act both as a judge and adviser of the prosecution, there would be an end to all confidence in the justice of the Courts. On the same reasoning we hold that the interference and control of the District Magistrate over the work of his subordinate judicial officers should be purely in executive matters. His Honor has wisely ruled that in the matter of preventing frequent remands and putting off examination of witnesses, the work of subordinate Magistrates should be carefully watched and strictly controlled by District Magistrates, but such control should go no farther. We are glad, therefore, to be able to say that we take no exception whatever to the circulars which His Honor has issued on the subject. They enjoin an extent of supervision over the work of subordinate magistrates, which, we hope, will be attended with the best results.

JAIL ADMINISTRATION.

THERE are a few points of special interest in the Government of India's recently published Review of the Provincial Jail Reports for the last year, to which public attention may be usefully directed. The returns show that in the beginning of 1890 there were 81,626 convicts in the Jails in British India, as compared with 75,765 in the beginning of 1889. The number of convicts deported from Burma to Indian Jails fell considerably—from 1,220 in 1889 to 160 in 1890. The number of convicts released on appeal last year was 11,361 as compared with 11,200 in the previous year. During the past year 1,690 convicts were released by order of Government. Of these, 1,534 were released by the Chief Commissioner of Burma on grounds other than ill-health, in pursuance of the policy of extending clemency to such of the convicts guilty of dacoity and waging war against Her Majesty in Upper Burma as can be released without risk to the public peace. In accordance with the orders of the Government of India, the deportation of convicts to Port Blair was restricted to convicts under sentence of transportation for life. The total number of escapes from jails was 153 against 188 in the previous year. Escapes were most numerous in Assam, the United Provinces and Madras. It appears that Sir John Tyler, the Inspector-General of Prisons in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, has recorded the opinion that the wholesale disuse of fetters has led to increase of escapes. The Government of India, we are glad to find, does not accept this view. His Excellency in Council, we are told, is of opinion that, "if the warders do their duty, the question whether convicts wear fetters or not inside a jail, ought to have very slight effect on the number

of escapes. If, however, the use of fetters has induced careless habits on the part of warders, their removal may not improbably have led to men attempting to escape, who would not otherwise have done so. In this case the proper remedy is to require greater vigilance on the part of warders, and not to re-impose fetters so as to render vigilance on their part unnecessary. This view is entirely borne out by the facts reported from Bengal and the Punjab during the year under review. In Bengal 54 per cent. of the jail population are located in Central jails, where the warder guards are well disciplined and fetters for safe custody are never used; no single prisoner succeeded in escaping from any of these jails. The Punjab reports 19 escapes, but none occurred at Delhi where only 52 convicts wear fetters. On the other hand, of 19 who did escape, 12 were actually wearing fetters at the time." These facts are significant and conclusively show that Sir John Tyler's theory has no legs to stand upon.

There was a slight increase in the number of European and Eurasian convicts in 1890, but the number of Native Christians fell off. The number of juvenile offenders declined from 2,097 in 1889 to 2,057 last year. These figures do not include the number sent to Reformatory Schools. These institutions have been doing useful work justifying their existence. In Bengal there are two Reformatory Schools—namely at Alipore and Hazaribagh. At the end of last year there were 135 boys in the Alipore School. From reports received from the Superintendent during the year regarding 80 boys released from the institution, it appears that 10 had been re-convicted and sent to jail, one does not bear a good character, and the remaining 69 are leading honest lives. On the 31st of December last, there were 29 boys in the Hazaribagh Reformatory School. The information given by the Superintendent regarding boys who had been released was that 57 were well-conducted, 13 were not traceable, 5 had been sent to jail, and 6 were viewed with suspicion. In the the United Provinces a Reformatory School has been recently established at Bareilly, and the report for 1890 is the first received regarding the institution. There were 69 juveniles at the end of last year in the Yeraoda Reformatory School in the Bombay Presidency. The Superintendent received reports regarding 36 boys who had been released since the opening of the the institution, and these show that, while 3 only had been re-convicted and sent to jail, 25 were earning an honest livelihood, 3 were unemployed, 4 could not be traced, and 1 was attending schools. The number of boys in the Paungde Reformatory School, in Burma, on the 31st December last was 77, and the Superintendent received favourable reports of most of the boys released from the School. No report of the working of the Chingleput Reformatory in the Madras Presidency has yet been submitted to the Government of India. Since the close of the year under review a Reformatory School has been opened in Jubbulpur in the Central Provinces. On the whole question the Government of India observes :—"The results at the Reformatory Schools, regarding which reports have been received appear to the Governor-General in Council to afford, on the whole, satisfactory evidence that these institutions have considerable effect in reforming youthful offenders. The only large province now without a Reformatory School is the Punjab, where it has been decided by the Local Government that, considering the necessity for building more Central jails and altering and repairing existing District jails in that Province, the establishment of a juvenile reformatory, as an entirely separate institution, cannot be admitted to be a matter of extreme urgency. While the Governor-General in Council admits that there are many claims on the Punjab Government in the matter of building new jails and improving those that exist, he agrees with the present Inspector-General of Prisons and his predecessor, that the establishment of the Reformatory is a matter which should be taken up with as little delay as possible, and trusts that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor will find it possible to deal with it on an early date." We notice with great pleasure that proposals for amending Act V. of 1870 with the object of improving the working of reformatory schools are now under the consideration of the Government of India.

Of the number of convicts admitted into jail during the past year, 13,248 had been previously convicted and admitted once, 4,055 twice, and 3,255 more than twice. The Government of India remarks that the results of the year as regards the identification of habitual criminals do not compare favorably with those of the preceding year. The Governor-General in Council thinks that this subject requires to be dealt more vigorously both by the Jail and Police authorities, and points out that Anthropometry promises to supply a valuable means of identifying old offenders. We are told that the necessary apparatus for experiments for the purpose have recently been procured for the Presidency Jail. We shall await with great interest the results of these experiments. The total number of jail offences recorded last year was 95,146 against 82,546 in the previous year. The Government of India does not discuss this subject in the Resolution under notice, as orders will shortly issue regarding the classification of offences in future. As regards punishments, we find that there was an increase in the number of cases in which solitary confinement or reduced diet was ordered. But it is satisfactory to observe a decrease in the total number of cases of solitary confinement combined with reduced diet.

The statistics regarding the health of the prisoners during the past year were not so satisfactory as in 1889. The death-rate, however, declined from 35·63 in 1889 to 30·68 in 1890. In Madras the mortality decreased considerably; but in consequence of the prevalence of influenza and other epidemics in some of the jails there was more sickness. In Bombay the health statistics of 1890, according to the Local Government, compare very unfavourably with those of 1889. which was itself an exceptionally bad year. The Surgeon-General of the Western Presidency, we see, has been directed to investigate the matter and report on the whole subject of health statistics, noting especially any sanitary conditions which it is within the power of Government to remove. The health of the convict population of Bengal improved considerably during the past year. Owing to the general unhealthiness of the year, both sickness and mortality among prisoners in the United Provinces were greater than in 1889. In the Punjab the death-rate was comparatively low; but the convict population, in common with the free population, suffered in health from the character of the year. The Government of India points out that the increasing prevalence of pneumonia in some of the Punjab jails calls for special inquiry and that the Inspector-General should also investigate the cause of typhoid fever to which a considerable proportion of the deaths in the Punjab jails is attributed. In the Central Provinces and in Burma, sickness and mortality among the convicts were considerably less in 1890 than in 1889, and in Assam, although the rate of admissions into hospital during the past year was as high as in the preceding year, the lower rates of daily average sick show that the diseases in 1890 were of a milder type.

EXCISE ADMINISTRATION OF BENGAL.

THE gross Excise revenue of the Lower Provinces for 1890-91 amounted, in round numbers, to 104½ lakhs of rupees as compared with 104¾ lakhs in the previous year. The net receipts during the past year were 98⅓ lakhs, the financial results of the year being a decrease of nearly a quarter of a lakh in the gross revenue and an increase of about a lakh in the charges, showing a decrease in the net revenue of something like a lakh and-a-quarter. The bulk of the increased expenditure was due to the extension of the Distillery system. On the 1st April, 1890, a great extension of this system was effected by abolishing outstills throughout the Presidency, Burdwan, Dacca and Orissa Divisions. The immediate result of this measure has been a decline in the revenue from country spirits of upwards of a lakh and three-quarters, and an increase in the charges of more than half a lakh. As the Lieutenant-Governor, in reviewing the Report of the Commissioner of Excise for the past year, observes, the outsill system was established under a self-acting detective agency which tended to keep down illicit distillation. But under the distillery system, no one's self-interest is enlisted on the side of the Government, and consequently greater vigilance and activity are demanded from the inspecting and detective staff of the Excise Department. The outsill system has, it is obvious, very great advantages from administrative and revenue points of view, and we cannot, therefore, easily understand why the average Anglo-Indian official should be so very fond of it. But, as Sir Charles Elliott has justly remarked in the Resolution under notice, the main object which the Excise Department should keep in view is to effect a gradual and lasting reduction in the consumption of country liquor, and thus to wean the drinking classes from habits of intemperance. His Honor emphatically declares that if these results are attained, the loss of revenue becomes a secondary consideration. We sincerely trust that all officers connected with the administration of the Excise Department in India will always allow themselves to be guided by these considerations.

It appears that the revenue derived from country spirits in Bengal during the past year was 45¼ lakhs, or nearly 44 per cent. of the entire revenue, as compared with 47 lakhs in the previous year. Notwithstanding a loss of nearly 2 lakhs during the last two years, almost all the other heads of revenue show such a rate of increase that the net decline of revenue, which amounted to upwards of 4 lakhs, was nearly made up. And the settlements for the coming year, we are told, show an increase in every division, except the Presidency and Patna, the net advance on last year's results being more than 3 lakhs. Excise duty is now levied upon country spirits in the Lower Provinces under three different systems. All outstills had been abolished in the Central portion of Bengal proper, lying mainly between the Ganges and the sea, and including Dacca and Mymensingh on the east and Orissa on the west. In this tract only distilleries are allowed. In Behar, and to some extent in the Hazaribagh district of Chota Nagpur, a mixed or dual system prevails; that is to say, distilleries have been established at selected stations, and outstills have been closed within the area which can be reached by distillery liquor; while in the rest of the district outstills are retained under restrictions as to the amount of liquor the lessees may manufacture. The outstill system also prevails in Northern Bengal in Chota Nagpur, with the exception of parts of Hazaribagh, and in the Chittagong Division; but in the last-named area no attempt has as yet been made to restrict the capacities of stills and vats in order to limit the outturning spirit. In discussing the respective merits of outstills and central distilleries with reference to the results arrived at in the sixteen districts in which outstills were abolished on 1st April 1890, and in Calcutta, the 24-Pergunnahs and Howrah where the distillery system has been in force since the 1st of April 1889, the Excise Commissioner, Mr. Westmacott, lays too much stress on the sacrifice of revenue caused by the abolition of outstills throughout the Burdwan, Presidency, Dacca and Orissa Divisions. But as the Lieutenant-Governor points out, Mr. Westmacott has overlooked the incidental advantages of the distillery system and that the loss of revenue which has taken place is nothing more than what might have been expected in the first year of a new policy. His Honor observes:—"In some respects, perhaps, the change was too sweeping, and in the wilder tracts of Midnapore and Bankura, where population is sparse, the people addicted to drink, the standard of living low, and illicit distillation easy, it has been found necessary to reintroduce outstills from the 1st April 1891. But in settled tracts where the people are fairly prosperous and the lower castes do not predominate, the Lieutenant-Governor sees no reason why the distillery system should not succeed a moderate revenue, and at the same time in reducing consumption

as soon as the disturbing effects of the change have passed away and smuggling has been reduced by improved preventive arrangements." We fear the re-introduction of the outstill system in certain tracts of Midnapore and Bankura has been a mistake, as time and experience will conclusively show. In the district of Behar, where the outstill system prevails, an attempt has been made to impose restrictions as to the amount of liquor the lessees may manufacture. In order to illustrate the practical working of this peculiar system, the Resolution under notice explains that the capacity of each still and the number and capacity of fermenting vats are limited according to the estimated consumption of the area served, and the upset price fixed accordingly. The Resolution says :—" The data available for determining these particulars are said to be the following :—(1) The number of customers frequenting the shop, as stated by the abkar himself and as ascertained by excise officers by enquiring among the residents of the village, (2) the abkar's accounts of the raw materials bought by him from the traders who deal in *mahua* and *chhoa* (or molasses), and (3) the abkar's accounts of the actual sales made by him during the past year. The local consumption having been estimated from these data, the size of the still and the size and number of the fermenting vats are determined so as to enable the abkar to produce the requisite quantity." This system undoubtedly looks quite unobjectionable on paper; but there is good reason to believe that its practical working is different. The data available for determining the estimated consumption are not thoroughly reliable. The statement of the abkar as to the number of customers frequenting his shop is not always correct, and the accounts produced by him are often fictitious.

Coming to the other exciseable articles, we notice that the revenue derived from country rum slightly declined during the past year. The number of licenses for the sale of imported liquor was reduced from 837 in 1889-90 to 816 in 1890-91. The Excise Commissioner states that cheap and deleterious liquors continue to be imported from Europe, and, notwithstanding the import duty of Rs. 6 per gallon, compete successfully with the more wholesome drink produced in the country. The revenue from *tari* rose last year by nearly a quarter of a lakh, and the settlements made during the current year lead the Excise Commissioner to anticipate a further increase. The revenue from *pachwai* or rice-beer, also rose by nearly half-a-lakh. Pachwai, Sir Charles Elliott considers, is a wholesome and moderate form of stimulant, and His Honor agrees with the Excise Commissioner in thinking that its consumption should be encouraged. It is satisfactory to find that the revenue from ganja has risen concurrently with a falling off in consumption. The Lieutenant-Governor, however, declines to endorse Mr. Westmacott's sweeping condemnation of ganja as a "most pernicious article." His Honor, says the Government Resolution, "has known many instances of its steady and regular use by most respectable people who find themselves able to work hard with its help and who feel no injurious effects from it. In this respect it resembles opium. After taking a small quantity of either drug, boat-men and dak-runners can go long distances, and coolies carry heavy loads without requiring much food, so that both articles are, like alcohol, a food of a highly concentrated nature." We should very much like to know what the medical men, who are never tired of dilating on the pernicious effects of ganja smoking, have to say in reply to Sir Charles Elliott's defence of it. The revenue from opium rose by nearly a quarter of a lakh, but the consumption was much the same as in the previous year.

AN INDIAN DEMONSTRATION AT DARLINGTON.

IN connection with the recent National Liberal Federation at Newcastle, a series of district meetings were held in the North of England for he purpose of considering the Liberal programme. The most successful of these meetings was that which was held at Darlington under the presidency of Mr. Theodore Fry, M. P. for that borough. What makes this meeting of special interest to us is that Indian interests had their share of the earnest attention of the Liberals assembled. The cause of dumb India was most ably pleaded by Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji and Sir William Wedderburn. The observations made by these two gentlemen were well received by the audience. A Resolution in support of the Liberal party having been moved, Mr. Naoroji supported it. Darlington, he pointed out, was honourably distinguished for its attitude towards Indian questions; and Sir William Wedderburn showed that India had a special claim upon a meeting of Darlington working men. It appears that fifty years ago when Negro emancipation had been accomplished, Mr. Joseph Pease and the venerable Thomas Clarkson undertook the task of securing justice for India. In furtherance of this great object many successful meetings were held in London and elsewhere. But Mr. Joseph Pease did not get the expected support in his own native town of Darlington. A meeting was held in that town in which Mr. Pease set forth the grievances of India and moved his usual resolution for a petition to Parliament. His hearers admitted the reasonableness of his proposal, but rejected his proposal on the ground that they objected to petition a House of Commons in which they were not represented. The working men of Darlington, however, gave a pledge that as soon as they were fairly represented in Parliament, they would redress the wrongs of India and see justice done to her.

Both Mr. Naoroji and Sir William Wedderburn referred to this interesting incident which took place in 1840. The former gentleman made an earnest appeal to the great British nation to do justice to the Indian people. He contended with much force that the interests of India were the interests of the British Empire. He observed :—" India formed five-sixths of the British Empire, and both must rise or fall together. On the other hand, every British question there was of interest to India. Every progress here in the condition of the people would have its reflex action upon the Indian people. India's prosperity was the prosperity of the British Empire. India's poverty or dissatisfaction was a weakness to the British Empire compared with which weakness, even that arising from Irish discontent was but as nothing. * * * Irish Home Rule was on the fore front, but he did not wish to put it backward. In fact, as he had already said, any progress in the strength and the principles of justice of the Empire was as much gain to India as to the whole imperial body-politic. * * * Moral forces of justice and generosity could alone strengthen and maintain empires. * * * No one could acknowledge with greater gratitude and pleasure the benefits of British rule in India; but they have arisen more from the spirit of the British instincts for freedom and justice than from the system or conduct of the British Indian Administration. Had it not been for the check from this British spirit, the Admistration would have degenerated into an oriental despotic government, aggravated manifold by the usual evils of foreign domination. Whatever moral good has been effected, the British Indian administration had been a failure in the material condition of India. Some fundamental reforms were absolutely needed; and until the Indians themselves were allowed their own representation or voice to a reasonable extent, both in the Indian Legislative Councils and in the Imperial Parliament, and were thus enabled to plead from their own Indian point of view, English gentlemen would hardly ever be able to see their way to the right solution of the Indian problems and the necessary reforms in the British Indian Administration." Mr. Naoroji, therefore, appealed to the Liberal Party, when the question of Irish Rome Rule was settled, to remember the Indian question.

This appeal was strongly supported by Sir William Wedderburn. After reminding his hearers of the pledge which the working men of Darlington gave in 1840 for the amelioration of the condition of the people of India and pointing out that the working men of England are now fairly represented in Parliament, Sir William observed :—" It was a striking thing to see how accurately Sir Joseph Pease understood the Indian situation. He had come to three main conclusions. The first was that on account of misgovernment the population of India could not earn their living, and he pointed to the countless deaths from famine. He held that if properly governed India should be a garden. His second conclusion was that England was bound to govern India for the good of the people of India. And his third conclusion was that the only hope of justice to India was through an appeal to the conscience of the constituencies. These conclusions had been confirmed by all subsequent experience. And the administration of India would never be carried on for the benefit of the people of India as long as educated, loyal, intelligent Indian—men like Mr. Noaorji whom they had heard that evening—had no voice whatever in the management of their own affairs." Sir William Wedderburn concluded by an appeal to the working men of England to insist that justice to India should be included in the recognised duty of the British party of reform. He was followed by Mr. J. Hyslop Bell, who also supported Mr. Naoroji's appeal on behalf of India. Mr. Bell said :—"David O'Connell used to declare that the principles of justice and freedom knew no change in different degrees of latitudes and that the claims of humanity were as strong within his breast on behalf of justice to India as in the demand for justice to his dearly beloved Ireland. * * * The time was long overpast when the public opinion of England should have been appealed to for a verdict as to the extent and degree to which the Government of India, as settled by Parliament after the memorable crisis of 1857, should be further liberalised—and that in the interests of the Empire. There had been a constant succession of Anglo-Indian statesmen during the last fifty years, whose utterances, on this most important of all the problems of the British Crown, all went to show that the wants of the Indian people were not sufficiently made known and that we relied too exclusively upon the military arm.* * * The unenfranchised masses of fifty years ago owed duties to their children which had been discharged. The enfranchised masses of to-day only needed to be fully informed and their mandate would be given for that true conservatism which remedied every recognised wrong, redressed every known injustice and gave a fair hearing in the open Court of Parliament for every tribe and nation within the wide spread dominions of the Empire." We earnestly hope that Mr. Naoroji's appeal will meet with a wide-spread response from the great British nation.

PROSPECTS OF OUR MEDICAL MEN.

THE *Indian Medical Record* puts in a strong plea on behalf of qualified medical men. It advocates strongly a local civil medical service and regrets that the opening for locally trained medical men should be so few and so unimportant. It observes :—" Compared even with other professional callings in India, we find the higher grades of the State services open to the locally trained graduates in law, engineering, &c., &c. For the medical graduate the only prospect is the Assistant Surgeon service, a subordinate position with a most inferior status and a very inadequate remuneration." As to the Uncovenanted Medical Service it is termed a myth, a delusion, a sham. It is contended that there is in reality no such service. "Here and there to keep up the appearances of fair dealing towards men of the country, an isolated Indian graduate is pitchforked into some insignificant civil appointment as a sort of balm to the executive conscience. The truth is that non-service men are being gradually eliminated from this so-called Civil Medical Service, and military men are being found for all such offices." The field for private practice is not more hopeful either, owing to there being little or no protection to qualified men. The contention th t men in the Service should be wholly excluded from private

practice does not appear to be very sound, but quackery might be discouraged which would be another way of encouraging talent. There are, however, difficulties in the way which the *Record* anticipates and tries to overcome. It says :—

"The country is overrun with quacks, and no legislation protects the State passports of Indian graduates. The Government takes the medical student's money for teaching him, sells him a diploma, and then sends him out of its colleges without the smallest protection or a scintilla of proof that the right the State has given him to practise shall be respected. The last census shows that in Bengal alone there were 21,000 uneducated and undiplomaed men at work among the population. These people multiply like bacteria. They have no pretence whatever to medical training, they are guilty of the most fatal practices, and yet there is no stop put to them. It may be urged that the existence of this class of practitioners is a necessity, and that to do away with them would be calamity, as it would deprive the poor in out-of-the-way villages of the only medical aid they can get. * * But in large cities, where admittedly the number of qualified medical men is enormous, surely here quackery might be suppressed and only legitimately qualified men permitted to practise." This seems to us a reasonable representation worthy of the Government's attention, and by way of inducing the Government to take it and the reorganisation of the medical service in hand, as a measure of justice to local medical graduates, these matters may well be commended, as the professional we have quoted commends to the sympathetic care of the Anglo-Indian and Eurasian Associations in the several provinces and such representative Native bodies as the British Indian Association.

But the question of different schools and 'pathies would puzzle the legislator and the executive, and orthodoxy might have objections to *vaidyas* and hakims which the country does not share. So long as Government does not take notice of the different systems obtaining in the country and establishes Schools, Colleges and Hospitals for their promotion, it would be difficult to draw the line at some satisfactory point, as the distinction between quackery and qualification would be far too nice and almost impossible to make under existing circumstances. We would be glad if something could be done for the advancement of those whose cause the *Record* advocates with so much force.

This, we are afraid, is rather difficult at least in the way that the *Record* suggests. The *Statesman* takes a common sense view of the case and writes :—

It is, and in all probability must for a long time to come continue to be, an unanswerable reply to that demand, that to pass such an Act in this country would be to deprive the great bulk of its population of all opportunity of medical treatment whatever. This would be a step of doubtful kindness and still more doubtful expediency, even if it were certain that the treatment of the *hakim* or *kabiraj* is worse than none at all. Many people may, perhaps, be inclined to say that this is certain. But such at all events, is not the view of ninety-nine out of a hundred of the natives themselves ; and we question whether it is even a view which many "qualified" medical practitioners, who have studied the subject in the light of facts, could bring themselves honestly to endorse. A contemporary, in commenting on the letter of a correspondent who, on the above and other grounds, writes strongly against such legislation, remarked, some days ago, that a "Medical Practitioners' Act" need not necessarily exclude *qualified* practitioners of the native system. We presume he meant native systems. for they are several ; but, however that may be, it seems to us questionable whether there would be any practicable way of including such practitioners consistently with the objects which a "Medical Practitioners' Act" is even ostensibly intended to serve—consistently, that is to say, with the exclusion of incompetency. Seeing that not only the native methods of treatment, but the entire systems of physiology and anatomy on which they are based, differ radically from, and, in many respects, are diametrically opposed to, those which Western science alone recognises as true, we do not see what test of "qualification" the Legislature could set up, without stultifying itself, that would not disqualify almost every *hakim* or *kabiraj* in the country.

Difficulties in the meantime are being added to the pursuit of the Orthodox system also. Vague rumours are afloat as to the conditions under which scholarship-holders will henceforth have to prosecute their studies in the Medical College. One of these is stated to be that the stipend-holder or his guardian must execute some sort of bond that the studies are not to be given up in the middle and that after completing them he must accept service for a certain time under Government under certain conditions more stringent than those contained in the present "declaration." These rumours ought to be set at rest and the authorities should clearly make known their views. As the *Medical Record* has been showing, the Indian Medical Service proper is anything but a bed of roses, and ill-paid as it is, its position and conditions should not be rendered worse, particularly as the old "guarantee" system has been done away with.

Latest News and Notes.

THE Viceroy arrived at the Presidency on Saturday morning. Owing to the early hour the gathering along the route was not as large as usual on these occasions. A Guard of Honour of the East Indian Railway Volunteers was drawn up on the platform of the Howrah Railway Station, and a Guard of Honour of 100 Rank and File of the 3rd B. I. with band and 1st Color was drawn up outside the Howrah Railway Station. The route taken was by the Hughly Bridge, Strand Road, Fairlie Place, Dalhousie Square North, and Old Court House Street. The Calcutta Light Horse formed part of His Excellency's escort. A Guard of Honour of 100 Rank and File of the Buffs in "Review Order" with band was drawn up in front of the big gun opposite the grand staircase, Government House, and a Guard of Honour of 100 Rank and File of the Calcutta Volunteer Rifles and 100 Rank and File of the Presidency Volunteers Rifle Battalion with band, was drawn up on both sides of the gun. The bands were massed in rear of the gun. The assembly at the Government House were distinguished and Lord and Lady Lansdowne looked the picture of health. We welcome them back cordially to Calcutta.

THE Viceregal Levee will be held on Saturday next. Saturday last was the last day for sending in the cards.

THE St. Andrew's Dinner will be held this evening at the Town Hall and the Viceroy is expected to be present. The following is a memo of the toasts to be proposed :—

The Hon'ble J. L. Mackay, C. I. E, as chairman, will propose—(1) "Her Majesty the Queen Empress." (2)"The Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the other members of the Royal Family," and (3) "The Viceroy, and the land we live in." His Excellency having replied to the last-named, Mr. J. F. Finlay, C. S., the Secretary to the Government of India in the Financial Department, will toast "The Army and Navy and Auxiliary Forces," General Viscount Frankfort replying for the Army. It has not yet been arranged who will acknowledge the toast for the other two branches of the service To Brigade-Surgeon K. McLeod has again been entrusted the toast of "The Pious Memory of St. Andrew." Mr. C. S. Addis, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, will toast, and Mr. J. S. E. Walker, of Messrs. Gisborne and Co., will reply for "The Lasses." To Mr. Geo. Irvine (Croupier) of Messrs. T. E. Thomson and Co., Ld., has been allotted "The Land o' Cakes." Mr. Thomas Lang, of the Standard Life Office, will propose the health of "Our Guests," to which the Hon'ble Sir Philip Hutchins will reply. "The health of the Chairman" by H. E. the Viceroy, and one or two minor toasts, complete the list.

SIR CHARLES ELLIOTT arrived at Durbhanga on the 22nd instant. His Highness the Maharaja paid His Honor a visit at 1-45 P.M. and later on in the day the Municipal address was presented. The reply covered the usual grounds of sanitation and education, in both which respects the Darbhanga Municipality does not seem to be up to the mark. The local school was visited in the afternoon and His Honor urged upon the boys and all interested in them the vital importance of exercising the body as well as educating the mind. He regretted that he knew of many cases in his own service where diseases were contracted by heavy desk work with neglect of physical exercise. He trusted the boys would, out of school hours, indulge in all games, and specially advocated football as being most inducive to keeping them in good health. Moreover he thought that a boy who got well knocked about at football, and came out of a good scrimmage without losing his temper, was sure to be a good man in after life. His Honor expressed a hope that the boys would follow the steps of their fathers, and behave as gentlemen, and not hesitate to respect their superior officers and elders by always recognizing them, whenever they met them, by even a gentle salaam, which custom he noticed was not being carried out by the present young generation as much as he could wish.

HIS Excellency the Governor of Madras arrived at the Presidency on Friday last and His Excellency was accorded an official reception. His Excellency left for Darjeeling in the afternoon, and is timed back to town to-morrow. His Excellency leaves for Madras to-morrow.

THE Maharaja of Vizianagram arrived in town on Tuesday last.

WE are glad to see it stated that Babu Gonesh Chunder Chunder has paid Rs. 100 for the construction of a small feeder road from Akra Station to the Monikhally Krishnagore village.

THE Maharaja of Benares was invested with the Order of K. C. I. E. by Sir Auckland Colvin last Saturday, and the Raja of Bhadawar, head of the Thakur House in the Agra district, received a C. I. E.

A SPECIAL jury has been sanctioned to try the Diamond case. It will be taken up after the Government cases. The Sessions commence, to-day as announced before, and Mr. Justice Wilson will preside. The *Bangabasi* case will appear in the board as a *remnat* from the last Sessions and the accused will be formally discharged.

THE Dacca Bribery case will be tried by Mr. Justice Wilson at the close of the ensuing Sessions. He will then sit not as a Sessions Judge but as a Judge, of the High Court. The missing records have not yet been traced and according to different theories they may have been made away with at Dacca, in the High Court or in transit. The matter is still in the hands of the Police.

IT was reported that Mr. Lee, the Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation, shortly goes on leave. It was also reported that Mr. Grierson, the Magistrate of Gya, through whose tact and judgment the recent disturbances at Gya were put down without much trouble, will officiate for Mr. Lee during his absence. This we are informed is not true. At all events Mr. Lee does not go on leave till April, if he goes at all. If he does go it will be for 18 months, and whether he will go or not will depend, according to the *Englishman*, on whether the Commissioners will increase his salary or not. This is significant. But if we remember aright the Commissioners sanctioned the increase and it was the Lieutenant-Governor that stopped it.

WE are thankful to learn that the condition of Prince George of Wales is more favourable, although the fever continues to fluctuate. His Royal Highness is declared to be virtually out of danger.

THE Inspectors in the Health Department of the Calcutta Municipality have received orders to the effect that they must reside in their respective wards before the 20th proximo. The order is no doubt in accordance with the Act, but it is represented that the time allowed is short. The men, who being permitted hitherto to live where they chose, have taken houses on lease in other districts. Moreover they should not be frequetly transferred.

THE Calcutta Corporation have very properly decided not to dismiss unheard Babu Purna Chunder Sircar to whose case we drew attention some time ago. A Special Committee, independent of the Suburban Committee, has been appointed to enquire into his case. To save

the dignity of the Executive, however, the Commissioners have been prevailed over to continue the suspension. We trust justice will be done and that an officer after a service of eight years, will not be suddenly dismissed on vague and unsustainable charges of "laziness, stupidity and so on," after the main charge, according to the Chairman's own showing, has completely fallen through.

WE are sorry to learn that Lord Lytton, our late Viceroy, died suddenly on Tuesday last from spasm of the heart, while engaged in writing a letter. He had been ailing for some time past and was lately confined to his bed through inflammation. His death will be a loss to the diplomatic service of Great Britain, for much was expected of his Lordship as British Ambassador in Paris in connection with the vexed Egyptian question, which threatens to assume serious proportions at no distant date. As a literary man and as a diplomat, his Lordship will be better remembered than as the Governor-General of India from 1876 to 1880. The Afghan War, the Delhi Assemblage during the Madras famine and the Vernacular Press Act and the Arms Act will always be coupled with his name, together with the disastrous financial policy which he was unable to control. It is needless to recall to mind all his failings as our Viceroy, just after death has closed upon a more successful career. But history will emphatically endorse contemporary opinion that he was a thorough failure as an administrator and the Conservative Cabinet never made a greater mistake than when in 1876 he was summoned from the Lisbon Embassy to the Viceroyalty of India.

THE unneighbourly neighbour of the British Indian Association understands that the Association has "resolved to convene a meeting in reference to the proposed survey in Behar. The meeting is to be held early in December. A number of landholders and ryots are to be indented for to take part in the meeting." Is the neighbour sure that indents are necessary in connection with causes that are very unlike the Assansole case? The whole of Behar has been agitated over the question as it has never been agitated perhaps, and ryots and zemindars have made a common cause which they never did before. The mistake of Government has to be pointed out in an unmistakeable manner and no amount of indents will hoodwink Sir Charles Elliott, who has had opportunities of personally gauging the intensity of the opposition to the measure. And what after all can 'indents' do when Government is opposed? By the way will the *Mirror* illumine us as to the relationship between the Cadastral Survey, the Consent Act and the *Bangabasi* case? Its reflecting avocations having gone, it cracks and lashes—itself into fury—and snaps.

BEFORE undertaking the Chin expedition a Durbar will be held, from which results of great political importance are anticipated.

FURTHER difficulty has arisen in connection with the completion of the work on the Manchester Ship Canal. It has been found that the Engineer's estimates of £470,000 are too low. The Manchester Corporation intends to insist upon a close inquiry into the real cost of completing the work.

BANKS trading in India and China have agreed that henceforth they will decline to receive as security for advance bills of lading giving the ship-owner the right of lien beyond freight and charges on goods shipped.

WE are glad to notice that Mr. Manmath Nath Mallik has, in memory of his deceased father, Babu Joygopal Mallik, established a scholarship of the value of £150 a year, tenable for three years in some European University. Over and above this free passage and outfit will be provided. The candidate must be a native of India and pass the First Arts Examination of the Calcutta University of February 1892, in the first division. He must also be a bachelor at the time of his selection. The detailed conditions of the tenure of the scholarship may be ascertained upon application to the donor, at No. 12 Wellington Square, subject to which the scholar may study or qualify himself for any profession, or service, or trade that he may choose. Mr. Mallik is, we believe, a bachelor and no better use could be found for his money.

THE popular play of *East Lynne* was repeated at the Corinthian Theatre on Friday last. *Uncle Tom's Cabin* in all its splendour of plantation scenery was produced for the first time on Saturday. The enterprising company is not as well patronised as they might be, and if no first class artistes care to come out any longer, the theatre-going public will have to thank itself. Sarah Bernherdt is said to have given up her intention of visiting India. *Merchant of Venice*, we understand, will be produced on Monday and Tuesday next when at all events our educated men should muster strong, for Mr. Miln as Shylock is superb.

IT is stated that Sir Andrew Scoble intends to endeavour to obtain a seat in Parliament at the General Election in the Conservative interest.

THE *Indian Daily News* perversely thinks that we advocate 'mediocrity, on the High Court Bench. Our advocacy of a particular gentleman who has several times proved himself a completely successful and thoroughly capable judge, does not surely imply conviction as to his mediocrity. The unworthy insinuation of our contemporary notwithstanding, the return of Mr. Hill to the High Court bench would be welcomed by the public and the profession. Our contemporary surely does not look forward to the appointment of a second Mr. Justice Wilson from the local bar and it is notorious that first class men care no longer to come out from England for the sake of what is justly considered a degraded appointment. There are, no doubt, men in the local bar who would do just as well as Mr. Hill, if they could be pursuaded to give up their larger income. But as instanced in the case of Mr. Sale, to whom a Judgeship is reported to have been offered in vain some time ago, the comparatively better men even in the local bar do not care for a judgeship. Under the circumstances it is fortunate that men of Mr. Hill's stamp and abilities can at all be pursuaded to abandon fat professional gains.

WE understand that Mr. Cranenburgh has addressed a further representation to the Government of India enquiring the reasons upon which he has been denied permission to reprint the Indian Law Reports in fac-similie form. He wishes to meet all possible objections and repeats his proposal to take over the surplus stock of the original Reports, the sale of which Government apprehends will be affected by the cheap reprint. The proposed reprint is intended for those legal practitioners only who cannot afford to purchase the original Reports, and who will never be in a position to do so. Since the first publication of the Indian Law Reports in 1876, there has been an accession of thousands of legal practitioners to the Mofussil Bar, the majority of whom are not in a position to purchase the original Reports. Considering how much the Bench is dependent upon the Bar for the due administration of justice, Mr. Cranenburgh is pursuaded that it is not the wish of His Excellency to withhold a knowledge of case-law from a large body of practitioners in the mofussil. His Excellency may not be aware that for some time past several volumes and many parts of the original Reports have been out of print. If the interests of Government be no way prejudiced, there is no reason why facilities should not be given for promoting a better knowledge of the case law, which is the *sine qua non* of proper administration of justice. There can be no doubt that if the Government grants Mr. Cranenburgh's application, a vast amount of legal knowledge would be disseminated and the administration of justice considerably improved. The members of the judicial service and the legal profession all admit that Mr. Cranenburgh's cheap publications have done much to spread legal knowledge.

REUTER telegraphs that the Governor of Russian Turkistan has thanked Colonel Yanoff for the brilliant manner in which he executed his orders to traverse the portion of the Pamirs belonging to Russia, thus showing that the expedition under the command of Colonel Yanoff was of a military character." There is very little "thus" in the matter, we are afraid. Commercial or scientific ostensibly as they may be, all Russian movements have a politico-military character about them, though of course that does not always go for much. Mr. Littledale has been reading a paper before the Royal Geographical Society, of London, lately describing his journey across the Pamirs. The *Standard* in an article says that Mr. Littledale's account shows that it is the duty of Great Britain to make her position in Kashmir equally as strong as on the Peshawar-Quetta Frontier.

OWING to the failure of the ordinary supply, a water famine prevails in New York and Brooklyn. A number of factories and the elevated railway have been compelled to stop work. Thirty thousand persons have been thrown out of employment.

LORD WENLOCK has granted to the Madras Salvationists the use of the Banqueting Hall in the Government House on the occasion of the reception of General Booth. This speaks well of the religious zeal of the benighted Presidency Town. In Calcutta the ardent salvationists do not evidently reckon so much on Governmental support and have asked neither for the Government House nor Belvedere. Their request is more modest than that and they would be content with the use of the Town Hall either free of or at a reduced charge. But even over this humble request the city fathers have been sitting in Committee. On Thursday, however, they decided to allow them free use of the Hall on the 8th January when the General arrives.

CAPTAIN PETELY, the popular Port Officer of Calcutta, has sent in his resignation. His name has been frequently been before the public in many connections not the least of which is the improvement and stability of the Naval Volunteer Corps.

SOME retired pilots expressed doubts through the press as to fate of the *Coleroon*. Before sending in his official report and to set all doubts at rest, Captain Petley had a meeting of eight senior members of the Pilot Service who were unanimous that all hopes of the ill-fated vessel must be given up.

THE official season report of Madras, for the past week, shows a serious state of things. It says that rainfall continued rather heavy in Tinnevelly and parts of Madura, but very slight and partial in six districts, and nil in the remaining fourteen districts. Crops are withering in six districts and prices are rising generally. About 18,487 men are employed on relief works, and the loans disbursed since the commencement of the distress are over seven lakhs. The death rate of Madras is 77 per 1,000. In Bengal the state of affairs is no less serious. Scarcity and disease will have to be combated to an extent not yet foreseen. Let those who are talking of a famine fund for Russia look nearer home.

THE Home politics of Great Britain on the approach of the general elections seem to be much unsettled. Lord Salisbury, speaking at a great Unionist meeting in the City Hall, Birmingham

on Tuesday, advocated the extension of the number of peasant proprietors in Britain, even if it was at the expense of the public credit. Any modification of the House of Lords, he thought, would weaken the House of Commons, while the abolition of the House of Lords would entail the risk of revolution. The supremacy of Great Britain, the Premier said, depended upon her Colonial Empire, and her inability to retain Ireland would be a proof of the weakness of the mother country to her distant colonies. The feeling expressed at the meeting was adverse to the Irish Local Government measure which Government propose to introduce next session. A resolution approving the measure was proposed at the meeting, but it was shelved by the previous question. Mr. Chamberlain, speaking at Birmingham on Wednesday, said that the Unionists were resolved to support the Conservatives until the conspiracy to dismember the Empire was defeated. The recent statement of Mr. Gladstone with regard to Egypt was, he said, a fresh reason to prevent a change of Government. The Liberal chances may receive a greater blow from the Egyptian question than from the Irish or any other question for the matter of that, for the bond-holders' interest is alway ssupreme.

WE have to acknowledge with pleasure the receipt of an excellent hand-book of the antiquities of Kalighat, which cannot fail to be of interest to the lay reader as well as to the numberless devotees that frequent the holy place. The work, which is written in chaste and powerful Bengali, is from the pen of Babu Surjya Kumar Chatterjee and is called *Kalikshetra Dipika*. He discusses all the different theories as to the origin of the name Kalighat which have been recently discussed by Babu Gourdas Bysak so ably in his learned brochure on the subject and adheres to the theory of *Kali Ghat* or the landing place leading to the temple of the goddess Kali. But what adds to the merit and interest of the work is that it gives a pretty exhaustive history of the temple and the goddess, prefaced by an able and comprehensive resume of the Hindu tenets especially bearing on the worship of *Sakti*. The history of the *Debuttur* grant appertaining to the temple has also been gone into with impartial care and the names of the different persons that contributed towards the construction of the temple and its maintenance and endowment, have been given. The *Robokari* of Babu Govinda Prasad Pandit, which we extracted in a recent number, appears at the end of the work as an appendix and the whole thing goes to show that the position of the *Shebaits* that the temple and the lands are private *debuttur* property, is absolutely untenable. The sooner they mend themselves the better for their interest and the good name of the place, for haughty demeanour and exacting demands never are the part of any religious custom. They cannot be permitted to shut out the public from the worship of the goddess for days and hours, because some petty squables of theirs have every day to be settled by the Alipur Courts.

THE European community of Calcutta has been aroused to the utter insufficiency of the recent hackney carriage provisions by one of their number being dragged into the Police Court for "refusal to pay first class fare." A first class fare table was produced at the end o an uncomfortable journey in a ricketty vehicle and the gentleman called upon to pay this "legalised blackmail" of course refused. The Magistrate could not support him and the man was allowed to charge first class. If the accommodation provided by him was not first class the Corporation and its officers were more to blame than any body else. But have the new bye-laws come into operation, and if so, do the public know it? We are afraid not, for the third class hackeries ply with fare plates removed and with bundles of hay and straw at the drivers' feet to the great discomfort of the passengers who get the fullest benefit of the flying particles, all which and sundry other matters, we suppose, are against the bye-laws. You cannot get a third class garry to go by the hour and they are as wretched as ever. But for this seasonable prosecution nobody would have known that Hackney Carriage millenium had dawned.

AT Mozufferpur the Central Mahomedan Association presented an address of welcome to Sir Charles Elliott and perferred their usual claim for favour. His Honor was outspoken in his reply and said that it could not be. His Honor observed that he need hardly tell them that the object of the Government was to find proper and competent men for its service, who could be relied upon to try cases, exercise a proper vigilance, and were capable of doing their duties in an efficient and thorough manner. It would not be right to expect him to sacrifice all this for the purpose of advancing any one community, and these appointments must therefore be open to Hindus, Parsis and all classes alike if they succeed in passing a certain standard. But he felt sure that they would be able to regain by those talents which their community displayed in the past the position their ancestors had held. More than this consideration he could not promise them, and he was sure more than that they would not ask or expect." For speaking well of his Honor's open enunciation of this policy of fair field and no favour, we have been heartily abused in many quarters. But when his Honor is repeating these warnings everywhere in clear and unmistakable language, there is not the slightest justification for doubting His Honor's sincerity of purpose. A line of policy once adopted is hard to deviate from all of a sudden, however wrong and mistaken it may be. We are pursuaded that His Honor's healthier policy will be given effect to in its entirety as soon as possible.

THE Oxford Mission have now a permanent local habitation in Calcutta at 42 Cornwallis Street in the heart of the native town. The Mission House had been completed for some time; but it was only on Wednesday last that an impressive ritual was performed to invoke divine blessing. The Lord Bishop of Calcutta and many members of the Anglican Church were present.

THE *Adya Sradha* of the good mother of Babu Jadulal Mallik was performed on Friday last with great *eclat*, at his Pathuriaghata residence. A number of gold, silver, brass and belmetal utensils, furniture, beddings and other articles, as well as large money presents were given away to distinguished and learned Bramhins and Pandits. A large number of people were also sumptuously fed and all the usual ceremonials attending such occasions were scruplously observed. Alms were distributed to upwards of twelve thousand beggars, and they were all pleased with the handsome gifts they received.

THE following Circular has been issued by the Standing Committee of the Congress at Calcutta and has been addressed to public bodies in the mafassil:—

We are directed by the Standing Committee of the Congress to request that you will be so good as to proceed to the election of your Delegates to the approaching Congress to be held at Nagpore. The Congress will be held towards the end of December, and the Election of the Delegates must take place without any further delay. The British Committee have recommended that there should not be any session of the Congress in India for 1892, but that instead, the Congress should be held in London in 1893. This, we are sure, is a recommendation which will meet with your approval, and is likely to be adopted by the Congress. Thus there will be no meeting of the Congress in India for the next two years, and therefore there is all the greater reason why there should be a strong muster of Delegates this year at Nagpur. The restriction as to the number of Delegates which each District is to return has been removed, and the Committee trust that you will spare no efforts to make this year's Congress the most-numerously attended of any. And indeed there are strong reasons why this should be so. In affirming once again the Resolution to hold its sessions in London, the Congress will be making a memorable departure in its programme; and if such a Resolution receives, as the Committee hope and trust it will receive, the assent of a Congress, the most numerously attended of any, it will derive from that circumstance alone a weight and an authority which its importance demands.

There are indeed other reasons why the Congress should be well-attended. From the following extracts from Mr. Hume's letter you will find that it is very necessary to make every exertion to have every district, every public association and every community well represented at the next Congress.

"There is every reason to suppose that at this coming Congress there will be a considerable influx of European visitors—as Mr. Caine said at the Calcutta Congress; but for the Autumn session, it is probable that at this last Congress we should have had between 20 and 30 members of Parliament, and unless something occurs in the interim to prevent it I myself believe that there will be many European visitors to the Nagpur Congress. It is therefore necessary not only that each Province and Circle should be numerically well represented, but that it should also be represented by its best men. At the last Congress

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DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION.—Allen G. Chattaway, Esq., District Medical Officer Leominster, testifies, as follows, to the unparalleled efficacy of this celebrated Oil in the treatment of Consumption:—"Having for some years extensively used Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil, both in public and private practice, I have no hesitation in stating that its effects are very far superior to those of any other Cod Liver Oil. Nearly four years since, two cases of confirmed Consumption were placed under my care. In both, the lungs were a mass of tubercular desposit and every possible sound to be heard in Phthisis was present. The sole remedy employed was Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil; and now the patients are strong and fat the diseased (abnormal) sounds nearly inaudible; and in the one case (male), hunting, fishing, and shooting are freely indulged in, the patient expressing himself quite capable of undergoing as much fatigue as any of his fellow-sportsmen." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his soul consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar Harford & Co., 210, High Holborn, London. 1

NOTICE.

ESTATE JAGU LALL DOBEY DECEASED.

The public are hereby informed that Sreemutty Manaka Rani Dabi of Wellington Street in Bowbazar, Calcutta, is the sole widow and heiress of the deceased abovenamed who died intestate and that as such widow and heiress. She obtained letters of admininistration to the said Estate under an order of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal in its Testamentary and intestate Jurisdiction, dated the 23rd of April 1888, and that no one else has any interest whatsoever in the said Estate. The public are therefore cautioned against dealing with any one else in regard to the said Estate or advancing money on the security thereof or any portion thereof.

KALLYNATH MITTER & SARVADHIKARY,
Attorneys for S. M. Manokarani Dabi

many of our best and ablest men were absent, some no doubt in consequence of severe illness, but many simply because the attendance was for one reason or another inconvenient to them, and the Committees failed to press them sufficiently earnestly to induce them to make the needful sacrifice.

"Another point has to be borne in mind. At places like Bombay, Madras and Calcutta, the struggle is to keep *out* spectators. At the last Congress, there were present on the first day fully 7000 visitors, almost every one of whom paid for admission to the Congress grounds, and I do not think that at any time less than 4000 were present. But in a comparatively out-of-the-way and backward place like Nagpur, I doubt whether even with free admission, we shall secure even on the first day as many as 3000 visitors. Unless a goodly assemblage of delegates is secured, the gathering will appear tame and scanty, and this has a tendency to take the life and fire out of the speeches and to minimize the practical effects of the meeting."

We need not say anything more, but trust to your public spirit to do your best to secure the amplest representation of your circle at the approaching Congress."

A ready response to this earnest appeal should follow. The Nagpur Congress should prove a greater success than its predecessors.

A SERIOUS railway collision occurred at the Howrah railway station on Thursday last, in which happily no lives were lost. A special train dashed into a goods train and caused immense injury to the rolling stock. The driver of the special had full steam on, and regarding a collision inevitable he shut off steam, and he, his fireman and his "jack" jumped off the engine as it approached the crossing. They had scarcely left the locomotive when the collision occurred, the special dashing into the centre waggons of the goods train, and derailing several. The special train was completely wrecked, the engine being smashed and the postal-van and the brake-van, the only carriages attached to it, being knocked into splinters. The two postal clerks in the former and the guard had a most miracu'ous escape. The jamadar through whose negligence this is said to have occurred has been arrested. But surely there are others who are answerable for the accident.

HOW will the Cadastral Survey affect the Behar ryot? This is a pertinent question that has been thus answered by the *Behar Herald*:—

"Mr. Finucane found in the experimental tract surveyed that the average holding of a ryot is three acres, on the produce of which five to six individuals have to live after paying cost of cultivation, rent, and cesses. The gross produce in *dhan* and *khesari*, under the most favourable circumstances, cannot exceed 60 maunds, and the selling price 60 rupees, from which deduct Rs. 10 as cost of cultivation, including the food and keep of one plough bullock. Rs. 10 would be the average rent. This is a very low estimate. There remains Rs. 40, out of which indirect taxes, salt about Rs. 1-8, and import cotton duties 8 annas, are paid almost in every instance, and cesses even now, including the Patwari's dues, 10 annas. Altogether the ryot pays in taxes, direct and indirect, Rs. 2-10 out of an income of Rs. 40, and no minimum is exempted.

A strain of five to ten annas to an acre under these circumstances will prove the veritable last straw. The abolition of salt duty will probably be demanded *de novo* before the Cadastral Survey is undertaken and this the Government cannot comply with. It must, therefore, comply with the alternative demand and give up the Cadastral Survey. The Government (which means the zemindar and the ryot again) may bear the preliminary expenses; but for the zemindar and ryot to bear anything direct is an admitted impossibility.

AFFAIRS in China are growing very serious every day. It is not the foreigners alone against whom the wrath of the people is directed but the Secret Societies that are dispersed all over the country and are backed by considerable military assistance, are doing their best to injure the constituted authorities. A telegram published by the *Daily Chronicle* from Tientsin says that a widespread revolt has broken out in Mongolia in the districts north of Pekin. The insurgent force, comprising Infantry and Cavalry, is reported to be advancing on Pekin. A force of Imperial troops has been despatched against the rebels. The *Daily Chronicle* publishes a further telegram stating tnat every Christian in Kingchow has been massacred. And a telegram published by the *Standard* says that the Governor of all Chinese provinces have been ordered to instantly decapitate the publishers of anti-foreign placards.

THE *Chronicle* publishes a despatch from Tientsin stating that on Monday last several bands of rioters pillaged and burned the Belgian Mission stations at Takon and Sanchi, and over one hundred Christians are said to have been massacred.

M. DE GIERS, the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, has it is said, been authorised by the French and RussianGovernments to assure the Emperor William that the maintenance of peace is the sole subject of the Franco-Russian *entente*. Could not the French Government find a more suitable medium for communicating this praiseworthy intention? Or does this only convey an idea of the extent of intimacy between the Eagle and the Bear?

THE *Times* says that it appears that Russia intends buying silver and gold in Paris and London with a view of establishing a silver standard. This is distinctly a new departure that may tend to further complicate the silver question or may simplify it very materially.

THE gradient up the Buckland Railway overbridge at Howrah is at times greatly trying to spirited horses and new animals and people have in consequence to go by the way of the old overbridge. As the Buckland Bridge was constructed for the convenience mainly of those frequenting the Howrah Courts, this object is to a considerable extent thwarted by the present arrangements which lead to occasional detours. We are sure steps might be taken without much cost for improving the approaches to the bridge by making the slope easier, and we trust this little matter will draw the attention of the authorities as the improvement indicated will conduce much to the convenience of those that have to use the bridge constantly.

THE VICEROY ON TOUR.

THE Viceregal visit to Bhopal will be momorable in that Her Highness the Begum personally proposed the Queen's and the Viceroy's health at the State Banquet. Her Highness spoke in *Urdu* and according to the special correspondent of the *Englishman*, she spoke in a clear and impressive voice, that was perfectly audible throughout the great shamiana. The Begum spoke with the utmost self-possession, and in a womanly and sympathetic tone that won all hearts. This is probably the first time that an Indian Princess has delivered a speech in person on such an occasion. Her Highness said:—

I may say, without fear of contradiction, that from the earliest times my ancestors have repeatedly and unswervingly exhibited their freindliness and fidelity to the British Government (loud applause), while I on my part, from the day of my accession to the *gadi*, have been equally firm in my obedience and loyalty. This spirit of attachment to the Supreme Power had for some time induced me to indulge the hope that the honour which has now been realized in the visit of his Excellency the Viceroy would be conferred upon me and my State. From the day His Excellency has assumed the reins of the Government of this vast country of India, he has shown, in all the cases that have come before him, special consideration for every matter connected with the State of Bhopal. (Applause.) I confidently cherish the hope that he will on some suitable occasion convey to her Majesty the Queen-Empress my determination always to exert myself in the interests and for tee welfare of my people, as well as my fidelity and loyalty to her Majesty. Furthermore, that her Majesty's most obedient servant Shahjehan is ever ready with all her forces, subjects, and the resources of this State to render service of whatever kind to the British Crown, and if necessary to sacrifice her life for her Majesty.

The Viceroy, on rising to reply, is said to have been much affected by the situation, and he spoke under strong feelings. He said:—

Your Highness, Ladies, and Gentlement,—I am deeply sensible of the honor which Her Highness the Begum has done me—an honour which possesses the greater value in my eyes, because I believe I am the first Viceroy who has had the advantage of being received as Her Highness's guest in Bhopal. I appreciate Her Highness's kindness the more, because she is still suffering from a severe domestic affliction, and it must have cost her an effort to emerge from her retirement; but I feel sure that upon this as upon other occasions, her Highness would allow no private feelings of her own to prevent her from manifesting by word and by deed the respect for Her Majesty the Queen-Empress which she has expressed in such eloquent and earnest words. I shall not fail to make known to Her Majesty the manner in which her Highness has referred to her this evening. (Applause.) As for myself, it is a source of the greatest satisfaction to me to hear from her Highness's own lips that I have, in her opinion, treated the different questions connected with the State of Bhopal which have come before me with that consideration to which her Highness is entitled, and I can promise her that my friendly respect for her will be, if possible, strengthened by the manner in which she has received me upon this interesting occasion. (Applause.)

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The Viceroy then went on to say :—

The rulers of Bhopal have always been conspicuous for their loyalty, their administrative ability, and their munificent charity. (Applause.). The service rendered to the British Government by the mother of her Highness, the Sikandar Begum, during the Mutiny, when such services were most needed, are not and can never be forgotten. Her Highness, the present ruler of the State, is a worthy inheritor of those traditions. She has shewn herself to be a wise and sagacious ruler, and she has contributed largely towards the welfare of the State by her generous support of many very good and useful works. She has assisted liberally in the development of the railway system of this part of India. She has constructed roads, built hospitals, and secured for the people of Bhopal an invaluable supply of good water, and only to-day she has intimated to me her desire that the Government of India should take advantage of an offer which she had made some time ago to place a part of the military forces of her State at the disposal of the Government for purpose of Imperial defence. (Applause). Ladies and gentlemen, I ask you to join with me in drinking her Highness's health, and in expressing the hope that any trouble or anxiety which she may have had may in time pass away and be forgotten, and that she may long be spared to continue a reign which has been fruitful of good to the people of her State, and which has merited the support and approbation of the Government of India. (Loud applause).

It is reported that the Begum is delighted with the reception accorded to her in the Durbar. The Viceroy announced to her Highness the decision of the Government of India to dispense in her case with the *nuzzer* ceremony, thus raising her to princely status. The evening before the Viceregal party left, the Begum received the lady guests at a garden party in her Palace. Now that Griffin influence has been removed the Begum breathes more freely, no doubt and is thankful for the change.

The Viceroy reached Indore on Monday last and was cordially received by the Maharaja Holkar. Immense crowds assembled at various points of the route, but the utmost order prevailed. The illuminations were very effective. It is stated that His Highness the Maharaja Holkar has signified his intention of maintaining two regiments of cavalry as his contribution towards the Imperial Service Corps. The Begum of Bhopal also desires that her offer of troops for the same purpose should be accepted. At the State Banquet Maharaja Holkar in proposing the Viceroy's health said :—

I look upon Your Excellency's visit to Indore as a great honour conferred upon me, and I feel equal pleasure in welcoming Her Excellency Lady Lansdowne. and wisdom of Her Majesty's Government, Lady Lans- While Your Excellency represents the power downe reflects the many womanly virtues with which Her Majesty is personally endowed, and I am especially gratified to find that Her Excellency takes the same keen interest in the generous work of affording medical aid to the suffering women of India as Lady Dufferin took with the hearty approval of Her Majesty. The noble example of these illustrious ladies can nowhere be better appreciated than it is in Indore, where the name of my illustrious ancestress, Ahalya Bai, is revered with filial affection by all our people.

The manly bearing of the Prince and his loyal sentiments evidently struck His Excellency much and after making up with Kashmir and Bhopal, whom a short-sighted foreign department had treated with needless and unjustifiable severity, His Excellency made the most of the opportunity of doing reparation to the Holkar. His Excellency in replying to the toast said :—

One of the great advantages of the annual tour which the Viceroy is in the habit of making is that it brings him into contact with the principal ruling Chiefs of India, and enables him to make their personal acquaintance and to discuss with them, without official restraint, any matters in which they are specially interested. Personal interoourse of this kind cannot fail to render their relations with the Government of India easier and more satisfoctory to both sides. (Hear, hear). I should certainly have been sorry to conclude my present tour without paying a visit to this important State. His Highness is responssble for the welfare of a million of human beings, and I have no doubt that the task of governing them and providing for their requirements is not without its irksome responsibilities.

Regarding the administration of the internal affairs of the State, His Excellency bore willing testimony and observed :—

I am glad to learn that His Highness takes a personal interest in public affairs, and I have heard with especial satisfaction of the zeal which he has shewn in promoting the cause of education among his subjects. His Highness's thorough knowledge of the English language, of which he has given us a striking proof this evening, shews that he has himself not neglected the education which he received at the Indore College as a youth. I am also glad to know that His Highness has done much for the medical care of his people, and that a large free hospital has recently been opened in the city at the expense of the State—a boon for which I feel no doubt they will be grateful. I wish also to take this opportunity of congratulating His Highness upon the successful measures which he has taken since I have been in India for the suppression of dacoity and for the dispersal of some of the gangs whose depredations were until lately a serious source of danger and a public scandal in this part of India. I can assure His Highness that it is the earnest desire of the Government of India to give him every possible encouragement, and that, so long as he is animated by the feelings which he has so well expressed in his speech this evening, he may count upon my cordial support and good-will. I will not end my acknowledgments of Your Highness's kindness without thanking you especially for your graceful reference to Lady Lansdowne. The part which she has been able to take in promoting the good work commenced by Lady Dufferin has added greatly to the interest of her life in India, and I am sure that she will rejoice to know that she can count upon Your Highness as one of the friends of the movement which she has so much at heart.

The Holkar's reply to the toast proposed by the Viceroy in the same speech was in keeping with his opening speech and His Highness said :—

I am exceedingly obliged to Your Excellency for the very kind way in which you have proposed my health. From the representative of Her Most Gracious Majesty such words are particularly gratifying to me. I have always looked upon the administration of the British Indian Empire as a great model for administering my own State. Following that model, I have always endeavoured to promote the welfare of my subjects. I am perfectly sensible that what I have been able to achieve is only a small portion of what I should wish to see accomplished, but the support which I have hitherto received from all the Viceregal representatives at the Residency, and which I trust I shall continue to receive from Your Excellency's present representative, my esteemed friend, Mr. Crosthwaite, leads me to hope that under God I may be able to do much more for my subjects in the near future.

In reply to an address presented at the Canadian Mission College, Indore, the Viceroy who was very pleased to be reminded of his connection with the great dependency, said :—

There is no country in which popular education and the best means of providing it are better understood than in Canada. I often admired the completeness of the educational system which prevailed there. It is a system which provides what should be the great object of all systems of education, a graduated series of institutions, carrying a student without a break of continuity from the elementary courses of the public school to the higher education of College and University. I have no doubt that the education which you are engaged in giving here is of the right sort and well suited to the requirements of this part of India. I observe with pleasure that you lay stress upon the fact that it is not entirely bookish, but that, to use your own words, it takes notice of the physical and moral side of our nature, as well as of the mental. The love of manly sports and acquisition of a healthy habit of body form some of the most valuable ingredients of education. There is probably no country in which this kind of education is more needed than in India.

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Government Notification

Calcutta Gazette—*November* 25, 1891.

GENERAL.—Mr. A. W. B. Power is appointed to ac as Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, until further orders with effect from the date on which he joined his appointment.

Babu Peary Mohun Bannerji, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dinagepore, is allowed leave for three months, under Article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Babu Troylokho Nath Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Basirhat, 24 Pergunnahs, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Dinagepore District, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Moulvi Mohammud Abdullah, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Gya, on leave, is transferred to the 24-Pergunnahs, and is appointed to have charge of the Basirhat Sub-Division of that District.

Mr. H. F. Mathews, District and Sessions Judge, Jessore, is allowed leave up to the 12th December 1891 under Article 308 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Mr. P. H. O'Brien, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is appointed to act until further orders in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors and is posted to the head-quarters station of the Dinagepur District on being relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector of that District.

Mr. C. C. Quinn, Officiating Commissioner of the Bhaugulpore Division is confirmed in that appointment.

Mr. G. M. Currie, Magistrate and Collector on leave, is appointed to be Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Howrah.

Mr. W. Fiddian, Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Howrah, is appointed to be Magistrate and Collector of Jessore on being relieved by Mr. G. M. Currie.

Babu Ram Narain Bannerji, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Kissengunge, Purneah, is allowed eave for two months and seven days under Articles 223 and 291 of the Civil Service Regulations with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Mr. F. J. Monahan, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Burdwan, is transferred to Purneah, and is appointed to have charge of the Kissengunge Sub-Division of that District during the absence on leave, of Babu Ram Narain Bannerji, or until further orders.

Mr. E. P. Chapman, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Patna, is transferred to Lohardugga, and is posted to the head quarters station of that District.

Mr. G. G. Dey, District and Sessions Jndge, on leave, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Tipperah during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. J Posford or until further orders.

Mr. S. J. Douglas, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Tipperah District, on being relieved of his present appointment as Officiating District and Sessions Judge of that District.

Mr. F. E. Pargiter, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Rajshahye District, on being relieved of his present appointment, as Officiating District and Sessions Judge of that District.

Mr. J. Knox Wight, District and Sessions Judge, on leave, is appointed to be District and Sessions Judge of Jessore.

Mr. F. H. Harding, District and Sessions Judge, on leave is appointed to be District and Sessions Judge of Mymensingh.

Mr. H. F. Mathews, District and Sessions Judge, on leave is appointed to be District and Sessions Judge of Dinagepur.

The services of Mr. C. A. Radice, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Tipperah, are placed at the disposal of the Revenue Department of this Government for employment on settlement duty in Orissa.

Babu Parbati Churn Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the head-quarters station of the District of Chittagong.

Babu Parbati Churn Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector is allowed leave under Articles 264 and 369 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 13th September 1891, up to the date preceding that on which he joins his appointment at Chittagong.

Babu Krishna Chunder Chuckerbutty, Sub-Deputy Collector, Chandpur, Tipperah, is transferred to the District of Chittagong for employment on land registration work in that District.

Babu Atal Behary Moitra, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Burdwan, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in that District.

Moulvi Mohammud Latifallam, substantive *pro tempore* Sub-Deputy Collector, Godda, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is transferred to Hajipore in the District of Mozufferpur.

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The well-known Bangalee writer, Baboo Akshay Chandra Sirkar, B. L. Editor, *Nabajiban*, will write an introduction to the work, and it will also contain that famous satiric poem, "The Great Rent Case" which was published in the *Englishman* some Twenty-six years ago, and which attracted so much attention of the times and which cannot fail to interest all classes of readers.

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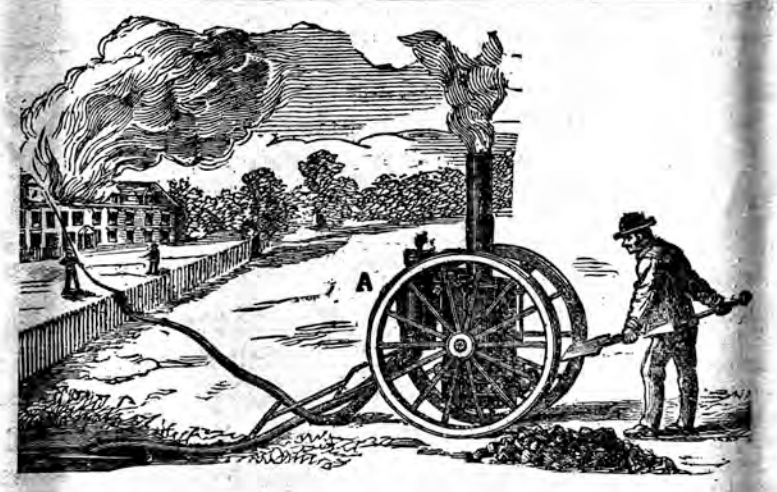

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Printed and Published by PRIYA NATH DASS *at the* HINDOO PATRIOT PRESS No. 59 MIRZAPUR STREET, CALCUTTA

Extracts.

THE LATE RAJA RAJENDRALALA MITRA.

A RECENT number of the *Vasarnapi ujsag* (Sunday News,) a Hungarian paper, contains, the following sketch of the life of the late Raja Rajendralala Mitra L. L. D., C. I. E. :—

More than half a century has already passed away since, the phenomenal appearance of Alexander Csoma de Koros on the horizon of Scientific research, but the spiritual link which he wore between Hungary and the far east, has never yet been broken. There appeared from time to time, devoted men to philological science who kept up inter-communication between our Academy and that focus of literary activity, the famous Asiatic Society of Bengal; a warm interest between the two institutions was intensified, in no small degree, by the efforts of our learned compatriot Alexander Csoma de Koros.

We know how great are the merits of our countryman Dr. Duka in keeping up that interest, since his return from India to England, he has not ceased to exert his influence in that direction. It was he, who, called the attention of our Academy of Sciences, to those eminent East Indian *Savants*, who in the time of oriental learning, in which Koros Csoma has so conspicuously laboured, have secured for themselves a world wide renown, and whom in appreciation of their eminence, our Academy of Sciences has placed into the rank of its members, a distinction which they accepted with gratitude and have not ceased to feel sympathy towards us.

Herewith we introduce to our readers three scientific men of East India, two of whom are Hindus, Natives of Bengal (*viz.* Raja Rajendralala and M. M. Mahesh Chandra), the third (Dr. Edwin F. Atkinson) though an Englishman, but it was Hindustan that afforded him material and opportunities for scientific labours. Two of these men are unfortunately dead already, hardly more than a year intervenes between the dates of their decease; this therefore seems to us fitting opportunity to pay on our part, a tribute to their memory.

The name of Rajendralala Mitra does not now for the first time appear before our readers. Seventeen years ago we have already published his portrait with a biographical sketch supplied by Dr. Duka. From that sketch we shall gleam merely a few principal points connected with his life so full of interest. (Here follows a sketch of the Raja's ancestral pedigree, date of his birth, details of early education, medical studies etc., till his appointment as Assistant Librarian to the Asiatic Society, in succession to Alexander Csoma de Koros. Mention is made of his earlier works; the later ones s ch as—*Budddha Gaya, Orissa, Patanjali's Aphorisms* etc. will be noticed on a subseqnent occasion.)

Rajendralala was conversant with several ancient and modern European languages, which is a very rare attainment in a Hindu; besides English, of which he was a perfect master, he knew French and German; in the Hungarian nation and language he took great interest and ever spoke with gratitude of the distinction conferred on him in 1865 by the Acndemy of sciences at Budapest. His scientific merits have been duly acknowledged by the English Government by conferring on Rajendralala not only a decoration, but by honouring him with the title of "Raja," the highest distinction ever conferred on a Hindu *Savant*.

This world-famed man of science, as was mentioned already, is no more. His end came on the 22nd of July last. How greatly his countrymen feel the loss, may be gathered from the Calcutta Paper, the *Hindu Patriot*, where we read the following words referring to the sad occasion.

CAN WE MAKE IT RAIN?

THE October number of the *North American Review* contains two articles under the heading "Can we make it Rain?" which Madras has answered in the affirmative.

The first is by General Robert G. Dyrenforth, who has been attempting, and, as he believes, successfully attempting, to produce rain in districts affected with drought by means of dynamite and other explosives. In the second article, Professor Simon Newcomb, the eminent astronomer, tries to drown General Dyrenforth's arguments and conclusions in a cold shower of sarcasm. It has been frequently noticed that heavy cannon-firing has been followed by rain. In 1870 an American author, Mr. Edward Powers, published a book entitled "War and the Weather," in which it is stated that 198 battles of the Civil War, including every battle of importance, were immediately followed by downpours. Results such as these, however, need very careful criticism before any definite conclusion can be drawn from them, and it occurred to several distinguished men in the United States that the question was one of sufficient importance to deserve experimental investigation. A scheme promoted in 1874 by General Garfield, General William Sherman, and others fell through owing to lack of funds. But in 1890 the Hon. C. B. Farwell succeeded in obtaining from the Department of Agriculture and the American Government a sum of 9,000 dols. for a new project, which did not involve, like the former, the expense and difficulty of transporting a large number of cannon from the coast to a rainless district. General Dyrenforth was asked to take charge of the investigations, and he has now published the details of the first experiment made under his direction.

"On the 5th of August," says General Dyrenforth, "our party arrived at Midland, Texas, a small station in the Texas and Pacific Railway, situated on the Liano Estacade, or Staked Plains, in a region which had been suffering from a severe drought of several months' duration, and a lack of good rains for several years. The party made its head-quarters at a point twenty-five miles from Midland in the midst of a dry prairie bearing little vegetation but scattered clumps of grass and low mosquite bushes, with here and there a cactus. The plan of operations was somewhat as follows:—Three lines were to be formed, each some two miles in length, and placed about one-half mile apart. The first line to the windward was to consist of a large number of ground batteries, where heavy charges of dynamite and rack-a-rock powder would be fired at frequent intervals. The next line to the rear was to consist of a number of kites, flown to a considerable height by electric wires bearing dynamite cartridges suspended from them, to be fired high in the air. The third and main line was to consist of explosive balloons (filled with a mixture of hydrogen and oxygen), which would produce terrific 'air-quakes' at intervals of one to two hours during the day or during continuance of the operation."

Some difficulty was experienced with the kites, their wires being often broken by the strong winds which prevailed, and consequently the dynamite explosions at high altitudes seem to have been a failure; but the rest of the project was executed with results which are best described in General Dyrenforth's own words:—"The first operation was made on August 9. At this time the balloon apparatus had not been set up; and only the first line of ground explosions was brought into action. The ground batteries were operated for about an hour, beginning at 5 P.M., August 9; re-opened again for a shorter time about 7 P. M. The weather was clear on the 9th and the barometer stood at its nominal height at 7 P. M. At noon of the 10th clouds began to gather directly over the ranch, and during the afternoon and the evening a very heavy rain fell—nearly two inches—transforming the roadways into rushing torrents, and every hollow into a small lake." The next operation was performed on August 18, the ground batteries being kept in action for twelve hours, and the balloon explosions being also brought into play. Meteorological instruments gave no indication approaching bad weather, bu "late in the afternoon heavy clouds gathered and fortmed, and rain fell iu torrents for 2 and a half hours over the entire southern and eastern portion of Andrew's County and most of Midland County and the countries to the south and west of it."

The third and final operation was begun at 11 A. M., on August 25. At 3-30 the barometric pressure was slightly below the normal, but the atmosphere was very dry. The wind blew from the south-east (the usual direction) at a velocity of 18-8 miles per hour and the sky was clear, except for a few very slight scattered cumulus clouds, estimated to be at a height of more than two and-a-half miles. Seven balloons were exploded, and the ground batteries seem to have been in action for twelve hours. "At 11 P. M,, the firing ceased, and our weary party immediately retired for the night. At 3 A. M., however, the heavy rolling of thunder disturbed the sleepers, and, looking out to the west and north, heavy banks of clouds were seen advancing, almost constantly lighted by most brilliant lightning. An hour later the rain began to fall in torrents on the ranch, and did not cease till 8 A. M. The northern portions of this country received the most thorough watering they have had for the past three years, and the reports from incoming cow-boys indicated that the storm extended over many hundreds of square miles." Besides the three heavy storms which occurred after the principal operations, continues General Dyrenforth, "not less than nine showers of much less importance occurred during the sixteen days of our experiments—a most extraordinary occurrence in this locality, and specially at this season of the year. That the results were not produced at an excessive expense of material may be seen from the fact that in the entire series of experiments only two tons of iron, one ton of sulphuric acid, a quarter ton of chlorate of potash and manganese dioxide, and one ton of rock-a-rack powder and other explosives were consumed, none of which are expensive materials."

In the opinion of General Dyrenforth, these experiments clearly demoustrate, first, "that the concussions from explosions exert a marked and practical effect upon the atmospheric conditions in producing rainfall, probably by disturbing the upper currents"; and secondly, "that when the atmosphere is in a 'threatening' condition—which is frequently the case in most arid regions without any rain resulting—rain can be caused to fall almost immediately by jarring together particles of moisture which hang in suspension in the air. This result was repeatedly effected during our operations, the drops sometimes commencing to fall within twelve seconds from the moment of the initial explosion."

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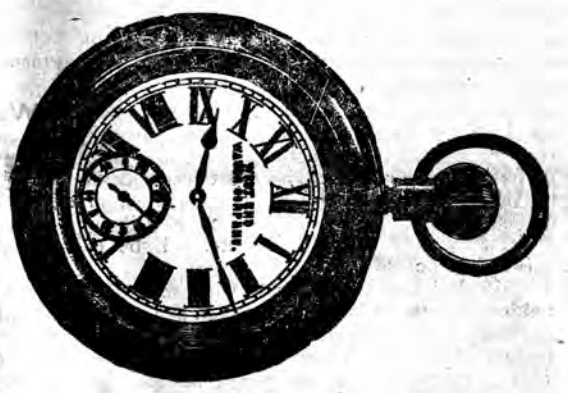

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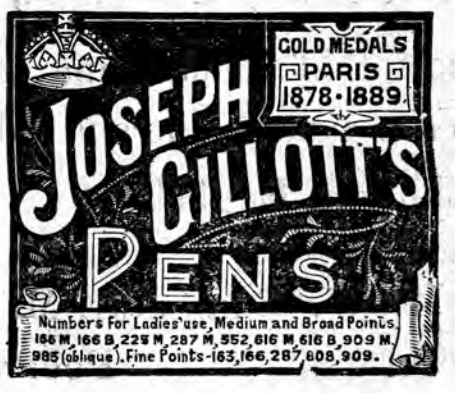
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